PASSING EVENTS

AT HOME AND ABROAD.

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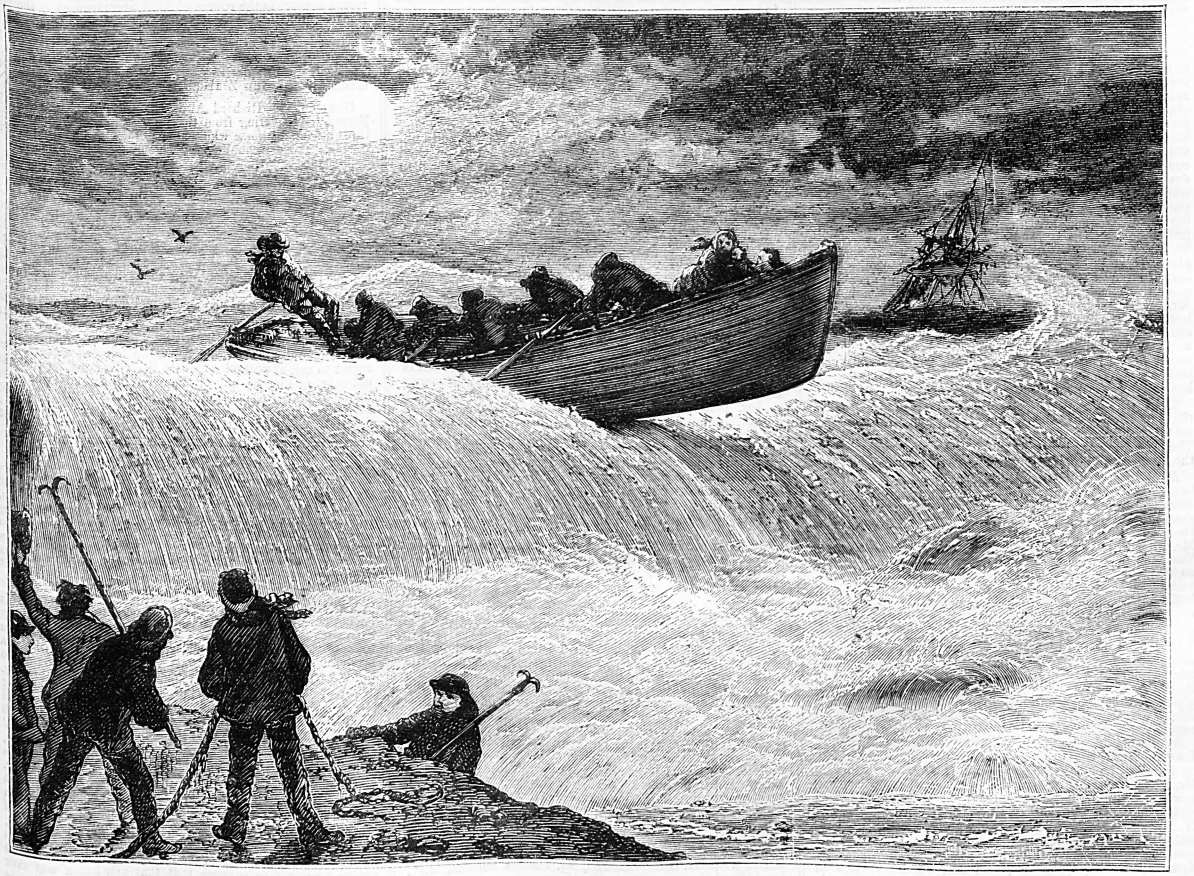
IN PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords, on Thursday, the 20th instant, Earl **Granville** recapitulated the statement he made on Monday week as to the cause of the Government tendering their resignation, and added that Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues had decided to resume office, and hoped they would have the support of Parliament. The Duke of **Richmond** wished to make a few remarks. He had heard it stated that unless Mr. Disraeli was prepared to take office he should not have broken up the Government, but the adverse vote came from no combination whatever. The party of which Mr. Disraeli was the head was in no way responsible for it, but simply voted against a measure which they believed was injurious to both this country and Ireland. He believed Mr. Disraeli's conduct would be approved by the country at large. (Hear, hear.) Earl Granville was understood to say that he was unaware that anybody had even said that it was the duty of the Opposition to take office after putting the Government in a minority.

In the House of Commons the attendance of members was as great as before. Conversation was only interrupted by the presentation of a few petitions, and the motion of Col. Taylor for the issue of a new writ for Tyrone.

Mr. **Gladstone**, who entered the house at the usual hour for public business, rose a minute or two afterwards, and said he was now able to acquaint the House that those who were his colleagues in the Cabinet until the vote on Wednesday week, had consented, and had received her Majesty's gracious permission, to resume the administration of the offices which they respectively held. There had, however, been felt a natural desire for some further information as to the manner in which the time had been occupied between Thursday and Sunday, and he would explain the circumstances of that lapse of time. On Friday morning he received the reply which was submitted to the Queen by Mr. Disraeli, but he (Mr. Gladstone) did not feel quite certain as to the purport of the reply, but on Friday evening he received from the Queen a communication which completely put an end to any doubt he might have entertained, and satisfied him that the reply of the right honourable gentleman was an unconditional refusal on his part to take office. Upon that he thought it his duty to submit to the Queen a statement which he prepared on Friday evening and sent on Saturday. This was forwarded to the right hon. gentleman, whose reply was received on Sunday evening. At ten o'clock that night he received from Her Majesty that reply, which removed from his mind the last vestige of expectation he had entertained that a Government might be formed by the efforts of the Opposition, and therefore without delay, on the same evening, he returned to the Queen an answer, that he would try to



THE LIFEBOAT RETURNING THROUGH THE SURF FROM THE WRECK OF THE "CELINE" OFF LOWESTOFT.

arrange for the resumption of office by those who had formed the last Government. That task he undertook on Monday, and it had now been completed. The Government had resumed office in the belief that there was nothing in the events which occurred last week that would warrant them in arriving at any conclusion with regard to the duration of the present Parliament. They were prepared to abide by the course of events, and would endeavour to proceed with legislation in the same manner as heretofore.

Mr. Disraeli again stated the circumstances under which he was sent for by the Queen, and proceeded to state the reason which he communicated to Her Majesty why he could not conduct public affairs in the present House of Commons. He called Her Majesty's attention to the fact that, though during the last two years the elections had shown a great change of public opinion, and in favour of the Conservative party, yet still the right hon. gentleman (Mr. Gladstone) had a majority of 88. Why, it might be asked, did he not then dissolve? The dissolution of Parliament was a function as to the nature of which considerable misconception existed. It was supposed to be a resource to which a Minister might recur with the utmost facility; but a dissolution was a very different instrument in different hands. A Minister in office could avail himself of it with a facility of which a Minister coming into office was deprived. A Minister in office had also the opportunity of disposing of the public business preparatory to a dissolution, but a Minister coming into power had to form a Ministry. In the present case it would not have been possible for him to have formed a Government and placed it in working gear until Easter. Even if he accepted the estimates of his predecessors, he could not have dissolved Parliament till May, and then it might have been asked, "What are you going to dissolve about?" If there were no issue before the country, he could not appeal without having a policy, and it was impossible for an Opposition suddenly to have a matured policy to present to electors, their position being essentially a critical one. If he had accepted office he would have had to conduct the business during the whole session. He was not prepared for a step of the kind, for he knew what was the consequence of endeavouring to carry on the Government in a House when a large majority was arrayed against him. When the time arrived there would be in the country a great constitutional party that would lead and direct the public mind, and when they entered into a career which must be noble, and might be triumphant, they would remember that he, as the trustee of their interests removed one obstacle from their way when he declined to form a weak and discredited administration.

The register for Parliamentary and Municipal Electors Bill and the Thames Embankment (Land) Bill were read a second time. The Salmon Fisheries Commissioners Bill and the Public Worship Facilities Bill passed through committee.

The House of Lords met at the usual hour on Friday week, but there being no business they at once adjourned.

In the House of Commons, on the motion for going into Committee of Supply, Mr. G. Hardy moved an address, praying the Queen, having regard to the oppressive and impracticable character of the obligations hitherto unknown to International law which would be imposed upon neutral nations through the interpretation placed by the Tribunal of Geneva upon the three rules in the 6th Article of the Treaty of Washington, and upon the principles of International law, with respect to the duties of neutrals in connection with the subject of the rules, her Majesty would be graciously pleased in bringing those rules to the knowledge of other maritime parties, and inviting them to accede to them, to declare to them, and also to the Government of the United States, her Majesty's dissent from the principles set forth by the Tribunal as the basis of their award—principles which, by unduly enlarging the rights of belligerent Powers against neutrals, would discourage in the future the observance of neutrality by States desirous of peace. Mr. W. E. Forster hoped the motion would be withdrawn, as it amounted to a vote of censure upon the arbitrators, and might be attributed to our annoyance at having to pay a sum of money. Mr. Disraeli, understanding from the Attorney-General that the three new rules were to be placed before the other Powers with the interpretation placed upon them in this country, and that steps would be taken to come to an understanding with the United States upon the subject, felt that the debate had not been in vain. Mr. Gladstone denied that the subject had ever been neglected, but explained that while some of the complicated conditions of the Washington Treaty remained unfulfilled, it was thought advisable to postpone a matter in which the joint action of the two contracting Powers was required. The motion was withdrawn, and the other business on the paper having been disposed of, the House adjourned.

The House of Lords had a short sitting on Monday evening, the Supreme Court of Judicature Bill, which stood for committee, being taken in that stage of the evening *pro formá*. The Poor Law Allotment Bill passed through committee, and the Custody of Infants Bill was read a second time.

At notice-time in the Commons, Mr. Fawcett signified that he should to-day ask whether the inquiry into the "Financial Scandal" in the Post Office ought not to be considered by the Committee on Public Accounts or a committee of the House, instead of by the Treasury. Information was given to Mr. Plimsoll by Mr. Chichester Fortescue, that the Board of Trade has exercised its powers under a recent statute to stop an unseaworthy ship from going to sea. Mr. Goschen detailed the Navy Estimates, which amounted to £9,875,981, being a net increase of £340,576 over those of last year. After the usual desultory Estimates discussions, votes for the men and the money to pay them were obtained.

In the House of Lords, on Tuesday evening, it was announced by Lord Granville that their lordships would be asked to adjourn for the Easter recess on the 4th proximo until the 21st. The subject of the alleged unseaworthiness of many of our merchant ships was brought forward by Lord Lauderdale, who received from Lord Cowper an assurance that the commission of inquiry into the subject was nearly constituted.

At question-time, in the Commons, it was denied by Mr. C. Fortescue that certain vessels had been or could be dealt with by the Board of Trade on the ground of unseaworthiness. Mr. Anderson called attention to our currency system, and moved for a commission of inquiry. Sir J. Lubbock having spoken on the subject with all the authority of a banker, Mr. W. Fowler contended that the Bank Act was defective in not giving the power to provide for any sudden demand for currency resulting from panic. The Chancellor of the Exchequer vigorously defended the Act, and Mr. Gladstone was in entire accord with Mr. Lowe. Mr. Anderson withdrew his motion; and Mr. Chadwick, on the Income Tax, was counted out.

POLITICAL.

Mr. Bradlaugh addressed a crowded public meeting of the electors of Northampton on Thursday week. He announced his intention to contest the borough at the next election.

The following witty bit has been revived and placed to the credit of the Marquis of Hartington, while discussing his political claims, *àpropos* of the late imbroglio. At the banquet celebrating the laying of the foundation stone of the new Northern Counties Asylum, at Lancaster, Lord de Tabley and a host of people were present. The Marquis of Hartington replied to the toast of the House of Commons, and said—"I have heard the House of Commons associated with many singular institutions in this country, but the present is the first occasion on which I have heard of its being connected with an asylum for the protection of imbeciles and idiots." There is a proverb about "two of a trade" which may explain this.

The conduct of Mr. Disraeli in refusing office has created a considerable amount of astonishment in France, where the cares of Government are lightly assumed. Only the other day a wit, censuring his countrymen for their temerity, quoted the observation of an English traveller who, after having carefully visited France, said that if he were to place himself on London Bridge and ask the first twenty men who passed if they would accept a seat in the Cabinet, the probability is that they would all refuse, but if he were to make the same offer on the Pont Neuf, the chances are that nineteen out of the twenty would accept.

Judgment has been delivered at Constantine in the affair of the Arab chiefs who took part in the revolt of 1870 against the French Government. Twelve of the accused were acquitted. Mokrani was sentenced to hard labour, and five others to solitary confinement. The condemned men obtained the benefit of extenuating circumstances.

Her Majesty's Commissioners' Board of Management for the International Exhibition of 1873 met on Wednesday at Gore Lodge, and determined to adopt the following announcement respecting the School of Popular Cookery. The school is situate on the ground-floor between the East galleries and the Colonial annexe. The object is to give illustrations of cooking food in the best, simplest, and cheapest ways, suitable for persons with incomes from £50 to £500 a-year. The utensils used are those which might be found in a house of £40 a-year rental. The lecture-room will only hold about 120 people, of which number not more than 70 can be accommodated with reserved seats, and there will be a charge of 6d. for each hour's instruction. Verbal explanations of the processes will be given by Mr. Buckmaster. There will also be a tasting-room. This room will not be regarded as a general refreshment-room, but arrangements will be made to allow a limited number of persons who register their names each day to taste the practical illustrations of the lessons in cooking at two o'clock and six o'clock. The subject of the illustrations given each hour in each day will be duly advertised.

The administration of affairs in the Island of Rhodes appears to be conducted on a grandmotherly system almost surpassing in its tenderness that which at present prevails in this country. The correspondent of the *Levant Herald* in Rhodes cites several instances which display an amount of affectionate interference on the part of the authorities recalling to mind the good old days of the scimitar and the bowstring. The villagers of Fanes, Tholos, and Sozoni are prohibited from cultivating their lands oftener than once in three years, and two of them have just been thrown into prison for presuming to infringe this regulation. In a case of appeal for the annulment of a mortgage on property brought before the Civil Tribunal of Rhodes, the property in question was put up to auction without even the semblance of a trial, and in spite of authentic documents in support of the claimant's appeal. Again, in an action brought by a Jew against a rich Turkish proprietor, the first proceeding of the court has been to imprison the Jew by way of forcibly demonstrating the fact that it is not with impunity that a Mussulman, especially if he happens to be rich, can be sued in court by an unbeliever.

On Monday morning, Mary Ann Cotton, who was found guilty at the late Durham Assizes of having poisoned her stepson, Charles Edward Cotton, at West Auckland, suffered the last penalty of the law. On Sunday evening last, it is said, she told the Rev. Mr. Montford, Wesleyan minister, who attended her, that she was the agent in the commission of the crimes. Whether this is to be understood as a confession of guilt is a matter of opinion, for some think that she merely referred to what she herself had before stated—that, unknown to her, arsenic was contained in some arrowroot she had bought. A few nights ago she became very violent, and three warders had to watch her. In consequence of her determined nature it was anticipated there would be a scene at the execution. Accordingly special arrangements had been made. It was planned that she should be carried on a chair and seated on the platform. This precaution was not needed, for precisely at 8 o'clock, assisted by two warders, she walked with a tolerably firm step towards the scaffold. She appeared very pale. Calcraft and his assistant walked close behind. The white cap was drawn over her face, the rope adjusted, and the sentence carried out. Two or three convulsive movements of the hands were all that betokened any struggle, the last of these being observed about three minutes after the drop fell.

Mr. S. Plimsoll, M.P., held the first great metropolitan demonstration on Saturday last in favour of his movement to protect the merchant seamen from being sacrificed by the sending of overladen and unseaworthy ships to sea. The meeting took place, under the presidency of Lord Shaftesbury, in Exeter Hall, which was crowded by an audience that exhibited an amount of enthusiasm very rare in public proceedings in this country. Some thirty members of Parliament, and most of the representative men of the several trade organizations, were present on the platform, Mr. G. Howell being the secretary of the influential committee which has been formed to co-operate in effecting the beneficent object which the hon. member for Derby has in view. Lord Shaftesbury, as chairman, insisted that not a day should be lost in obtaining for merchant seamen the legislative protection that has been extended to miners, colliers, factory-children, and emigrants; and among those who added their eloquence to that of the noble Earl and of the warm-hearted member for Derby, were Mr. George Howell, Mr. Thomas Hughes, M.P., Lord Claud Hamilton, M.P., Mr. George Potter, Mr. Applegarth, the Rev. Newman Hall, and Mr. Balfour, one of the leading Liverpool shipowners.

PERSONAL.

Mr. Gye's friends will be glad to hear that, though he is still in bed at Vienna, he is much better.

The Duc d'Ossuna has accepted the Presidency of the Spanish Commission for the Vienna Exhibition.

Count Bernstorff's condition remains without material change.

Mr. Land is the successor to the late Mr. Bradbury, as secretary to the Noblemen and Gentlemen's Catch Club.

Archduke Charles Louis of Austria has been betrothed to the Princess Marie of Braganza.

The Maharajah Duleep Singh has recently been elected a member of the Carlton Club.

Thomas Carlyle has been re-elected President of the Edinburgh Philosophical Institution.

M. Pelleport, the manager of the *Rappel*, and M. Locroy the editor, have each been sentenced to a month's imprisonment and a fine of 500f.

Sir T. Fowell Buxton, Bart., has finally decided to accept an invitation to stand for the city of Westminster in the Liberal interest at the next election.

M. Thiers has received from the King of Portugal the Order of St. James, which was instituted for the honourable recognition of merit in literature and science.

Lord Coventry, on his retirement from the mastership of the Cotswold Hunt, has been presented with a portrait-picture of himself and the Countess, on horseback.

Nasrulla Mirza, nephew of the Shah of Persia, has entered the Russian army as a cavalry ensign in the troops of the Caucasus.

The Imperial Crown Prince of Germany has sent word that owing to the state of his health he will be unable to be present at the opening of the Vienna Exhibition.

The Empress of Russia has been received at Naples with great *éclat*. Her Majesty, who is in excellent health, proceeded at once to Sorrento.

Andrew Joseph Duncan, who was convicted at the Glamorgan assizes of murder, and sentenced to death, has been respited, on the evidence of two doctors that he is mad.

A literary gentleman who has travelled over the whole world says that the ladies of the Royal Family of Russia cannot be matched for personal beauty.

The Prince of Wales paid his maiden visit to the Reform Club on Saturday evening. His Royal Highness went there as the guest of two highly popular members, Lord Rosebery and Colonel Ousley Higgins.

Hans Andersen, the famous Danish author, still continues seriously ill. It is hoped that a trip to Italy, on which he means to start in the course of April, accompanied by the poet Boegh, will assist his recovery.

Sir James Fergusson, of Kilkerran, was entertained by his tenantry and his friends in Ayrshire to a public dinner last week, previous to his leaving this country to undertake the Government of New Zealand.

General Sir Richard Airey, the Adjutant-General of the Forces, is recovering from the injuries he received by being thrown from his horse whilst about to join the hunting field in Surrey. His collar-bone has been satisfactorily replaced.

Lord Romilly, on retiring on Tuesday from the Rolls Court, over which he has presided for twenty-two years, was addressed in a farewell speech by Sir Richard Baggallay, Q.C., the senior member of the Bar, and replied with very apparent emotion.

The Shah of Persia has expressed a desire to attend a chamois hunt while in Austria. The Shah is reputed as being a great sportsman and a good shot. To oblige his future guest, the Emperor Francis Joseph has ordered the necessary arrangements to be made, and inserted an Imperial chamois hunt as a new feature into the programme of festivities.

Mr. George Augustus Sala, the talented writer, is, we regret to say, at present seriously ill. We trust, for the sake not only of himself, but of the many thousands who have found delight from his facile pen, that a favourable turn may soon take place in his condition. Mr. Sala's ability as a descriptive writer is unrivalled, and his loss would be one not easily supplied.

The *Mémorial Diplomatique* says the marriage of Prince Arthur, the third son of the Queen of England, with the Grand Duchess Mary, daughter of the Emperor Alexander of Russia, is now arranged. The young prince will go to St. Petersburg immediately after the return of the Emperor, who is now in Italy. It is long since an English prince was betrothed to a princess of a non-Protestant religion. The Prince of Wales and his sister-in-law, the Grand Duchess of Russia, have, it is said, greatly contributed to this union.

Mr. Rhodes, the Newport solicitor, whose story of his having been kidnapped and kept ten days in confinement has been already reported, has become insane. Since his return to Newport, about a fortnight ago, he again disappeared in a mysterious manner. This time he was tracked by the police to Weymouth, where he was found living in a private lodging. When he had been away two days his wife received a rambling and incoherent letter, in which he said that when she received it the writer would be a dead man. He is a little over 50 years of age. It is now stated that the reward in Mr. Rhodes' case was never paid. The most careful investigations have, we are informed, been instituted by Colonel Henderson's directions as to the truth of the statements made by Mr. Rhodes. It is not necessary to mention all the circumstances which have come to the knowledge of the police, and which have induced the experienced officers who have had charge of the case to form a decided opinion about it. The public may, however, be assured that what has happened to Mr. Rhodes need cause no alarm. From the facts ascertained, there is no reason whatever to suppose that that gentleman was ever detained anywhere against his will. The same opinion is entertained, we are informed, with regard to other "mysterious disappearances" which have been reported.

AT HOME.

Two cases of hydrophobia, both mortal, have been certified by medical evidence and the verdict of a coroner's jury at Manchester.

In joyful celebration of the ignominious failure of the Chelsea Waterworks Bill, a great feast was held on Saturday, last at the Greyhound Hotel, Hampton Court.

The body of a man named William Halt, civilian groom to an officer at Aldershot, has been found in the Basingstoke Canal, with an ugly cut across the forehead.

A Board of Trade inquiry has been opened into the loss of the ship *Peru*, of Liverpool, which foundered shortly after fifteen of her crew had refused to go to sea in her.

Mending as the time draws near for the great inter-University boat-race, the weather this week reached a positive stage of enjoyability when the crews were watched from the river banks. Cambridge remained firm favourites in the betting.

Two sailors, on being charged at Newport with deserting their ship, the *Caroline Basey*, signified their willingness to return to duty on board that vessel if the forecastle were made fitter to sleep in, it being alleged by them that there were only four hammocks among five men.

A frightful accident has happened at Castle Caercidinion to a pump-maker named Evans. The poor fellow was at work in a well, when one of the sides gave way, and crushed him under many tons of rubbish. He leaves a wife and family.

Until last week a policeman was employed night and day outside the chapel at Chislehurst, lest any outrage should be attempted from motives of mischief or plunder; but this precaution has been withdrawn, though a nightly watch is still kept inside the building.

Any person now selling adulterated articles is liable to a penalty of £50 for the first offence, and six months' imprisonment with hard labour for the second. If this law is carried out, the Registrar-General will show a healthier life condition in England.

A man named Dyke murdered his brother on Monday at Youghal. He had recently been discharged from a lunatic asylum, and had become violent during the last few days. On Monday morning he attacked his brother with a knife, inflicting nine wounds.

Shortly before seven o'clock on Tuesday morning a boiler burst at Messrs. Blakeley's Midland Soap Works, Wakefield. A man named Thomas Atkinson, the fireman at the works, was blown into the canal, and killed on the spot. Another man was very seriously injured.

The proposed scullers' match between Sadler and Bagnall will not take place, as Bagnall, being dissatisfied with the manner in which negotiations have been conducted, declines to proceed any further. He has, however, been matched with Bright to row on the Tyne from the High Level to Scotswood Suspension Bridge, on Saturday, April 12 for £200.

A fire occurred last Saturday at Staleybridge, which has resulted in the total destruction of a large cotton mill belonging to Messrs. Bothero, Bonser, & Co. The fire was caused by one of the centres of a spinning-jenny becoming overheated, igniting the cotton. The damage is estimated at £15,000.

On Sunday four yachtsmen were proceeding in a punt to the yacht *Phosphorus*, laying off Monkstown, when a man who was pulling the paddles accidentally dropped the starboard paddle, and in attempting to recover it capsized the punt. Captain John Fisher and a man named Crouch were drowned. The other two men were rescued.

The coroner's inquiry into the death of the eighteen men and boys killed in the Talke Colliery, on the 18th of February, by an explosion of gas resulted in a verdict of "accidental death." The jury expressed their opinion, however, that a more efficient system of ventilation should be employed at the pit.

The National Agricultural Union at Leamington has resolved to petition the various Colonial Governments for free passes to agricultural labourers desirous of emigrating; the main object of this appeal being to prevent persons in their condition from seeking countries where they would be strange to the established customs, language, and religion.

The blast-furnace owners of the North of England held a meeting at the Royal Exchange at Middlesbrough on Tuesday, to consider the application of the men for an advance of 25 per cent. The meeting was well attended, and it was resolved not to accede to the request, the masters considering that the wages already paid are reasonable.

The Football match, London *v.* Sheffield, was played on Saturday, at Sheffield, the first half under association rules, and the second under those of Sheffield. Of the two previous matches which came off recently, Sheffield won that played under her own rules, while London was victor in that played under association rules. Sheffield won the conquering match on Saturday by two goals to one.

A man giving the name of Hamilton has been staying at the West Cliff Hotel, Folkestone, and, on his bill being presented, declared himself unable to pay. Taking off his cork leg, he refused to leave, and was placed on the pavement outside, where he remained most of the day. He was ultimately removed by the police, and, having been threatened with the casual ward, took his departure by train for Ashford.

A fatal accident occurred last Saturday morning at the Walworth-road Railway Station. Charles Smith was a passenger by the last train from Ludgate-hill to Victoria. While the train was leaving the station he dropped his hat, and, disregarding the shouts of the porters, sprang out of the carriage to recover it. He fell between the train and the platform, receiving shocking injuries, which have since resulted in death.

The *Clementina*, of Nantes, and the *Shamrock*, smack, of Falmouth, were in collision off the Longships, on the 14th inst. The former foundered, and the latter was abandoned. Both crews (with the exception of two Frenchmen drowned) have been landed. The barque *Batavia*, bound for Buenos Ayres, with a general cargo, is on shore off Dymchurch. Some soldiers from Shorncliff have been digging a canal from the stern of the vessel, when it is expected the spring tides will float her.

The Bristol papers briefly report a "row" which took place last week at a local board of guardians' meeting. One pugnacions guardian complained of being interrupted by the chairman, and turning a "withering" glance on that distinguished personage, said, "You remind me of one of a jury of twelve who went to a judge and said, 'These are the eleven stubbornest men I ever saw in my life.'" To this the chairman blandly replied, "And I should think he was quite right if you were one of the eleven, sir."

A singular death from the bite of a cat was the subject of an inquest held before Mr. Richards last week, on the body of Sarah Bailey Chatfield, aged ten years. The deceased lived with her mother, and, while standing at the door, was bitten on the thumb by a black cat. The thumb got worse, and was poulticed. On Monday week she had pains in her body, and on Tuesday she died. The surgeon who attended her said that death resulted from collapse, consequent on blood poisoning.

Swindling operations at Wrexham have been checked in a rather ingenious manner. A couple of dashing adventurers, male and female, had been preying for some little time on the unsuspicious inhabitants, and the weaker vessel had in particular managed to coax a kind-hearted lady into giving £2 for a dozen handkerchiefs, worth perhaps about a sixth of the money. Being unable to saddle the vendor with any illegal act in merely putting an extravagant price on her goods, the police bethought them of charging her with hawking without a licence, and she was fined £10 and costs.

Archbishop Manning presided on Monday night at a meeting held in Exeter Hall, to set on foot a Roman Catholic temperance movement similar to that commenced some weeks ago in the Established Church. The Archbishop was supported by a great number of the priests of his Church, and the hall was filled mainly with Irish and the labouring class of English. By the time the meeting began the hall was so full that several hundred people went to Trafalgar-square, and held a second meeting there. Resolutions were carried approving the formation of the League, and afterwards the Archbishop went to Trafalgar-square to see the meeting assembled there. When he returned he enrolled the names of those who were willing to take the pledge.

On Saturday afternoon a murder was perpetrated in the eastern district of Glasgow. Two brothers named respectively Duncan and James Nimmo—the latter an old soldier, and the former a private in the 18th Regiment of Foot, at present stationed at Aldershot—had been drinking together during the day, and in the afternoon they visited a friend, in whose house they spent several hours. Ultimately James wished to go home, but Duncan declined; whereupon the former, saying he would rather kill than part with his brother, stabbed Duncan in the abdomen with a knife. The assailant, after a severe struggle, was secured and taken into custody, and the wounded man was removed to the infirmary, where he died in the course of Sunday.

An inquest was commenced on Monday in Bethnal-green on the bodies of one female and three male children, who were found in a coffin with the body of a woman on Friday last. Upon the jury proceeding to view the bodies a dreadful spectacle presented itself before them. On the table of the dead-house lay the coffin, which contained the body of a sickly-looking woman, apparently about thirty years of age. On each of her arms was crouched down the body of a child; two others were at her feet. One child had its neck broken, and another had an injury at the side of the head. The coffin was void of any furniture, the body lying on the bare wood. It had been taken to the workhouse from the London Hospital. The inquest was adjourned for further information from the man who put the bodies in the coffin.

Though Easter Monday is not to be celebrated by a review this year, as heretofore, several of the metropolitan corps intend, in one way or another, to make use of the day; and, though some of the commanding officers have announced their intention of not going out at all, there are at least four brigade or divisional field-days projected. In the first place, it is stated that Prince Edward of Saxe Weimar, who commands in the district, intends to have a drill of the Guards and Volunteers somewhere near the metropolis, and probably at Wimbledon. At Alexandra Park it is likely there will be another parade, the details of which will be arranged by Colonel Wilkinson, of the 2nd Middlesex Administrative Battalion; and, while the Volunteers of the Tower Hamlets and Essex hope to have a sham fight at Nazing, there is a talk of a review at Woolwich of the Regulars and City of London and North Kent corps. Some corps intend to have long days by themselves, the 19th Middlesex endeavouring to get up a good country march from one of the stations on the Brighton line.

A serious complaint has been made to the Kingston Board of Guardians by the barber who shaves the inmates of the workhouse—namely, that they are in the habit of swearing horribly when he is shaving them; and as it takes him two and a half hours weekly to deprive them of their beards, they get through an immense amount of cursing and bad language on the occasion of his visits. At the last meeting of the board a few days ago the barber was called in to substantiate his charge, and there can be little doubt from the evidence produced that he stands in a most disagreeable position. It seems that the inmates have a system of signals, so that when any of the officers are approaching, the use of frightful language is immediately stopped, and they assume a dove-like demeanour totally different from that which shocks the barber by its brutality. The board passed a unanimous resolution "condemning the habit of using bad language that seems to prevail among the inmates of the house," and requesting the master to punish the offenders in future; at the same time orders were given for shaving the paupers in batches of six at a time, instead of allowing them all to congregate for that purpose as hitherto. It is to be hoped that these steps will have the desired effect, and that the barber, instead of being greeted with profane remarks when he produces the shaving-brush, will find, in the words of Shakspeare, blessings fall on him "thick as the dews of heaven."

Madame Tussaud's Exhibition.—A portrait model of his late Imperial Majesty NAPOLEON III, lying in state is now added. Napoleon relics. "The most remarkable thing in the museum," says M. de Cassagnac, "is the grand physiognomy of Napoleon I. Everything connected with him has been collected with admirable care." Also Sergeant Bates, the bearer of the "American Flag" throughout the United Kingdom.—Admission 1s. Children under ten, 6d. Extra rooms, 6d. Open from 10 a.m. till 10 p.m.—[Advt.]

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

The late Lord Lytton's last novel of "Kenelm Chillingly" will be published this week.

Naples has just celebrated the 200th anniversary of the death of Salvator Rosa.

A new English journal is to be brought out at Frankfort-on-the-Maine.

The restoration of the Palais Royal is to be recommenced immediately.

Mr. Ruskin has purchased for 1,000l. a book of sketches, bearing the title "Dessins de Benozza Gozzoli," and found by M. Lotichos, at Florence, in 1823.

A New York firm advertises a book, "How to get a Farm." If the author knows of any better way to get a farm than to buy it, he is worth listening to.

The Paris journal *La Presse* is announced for sale at the upset price of 250,000f. About ten years back M. Mirès gave for the same print 1,500,000f.

The Shakers in their new organ put their deaths under the head of "Harvested." When they are buried, they probably call it "Planted."

An advertisement appears in the *New York Herald* offering for sale, for 3,000 dollars, a shekel supposed to have belonged to Judas Iscariot.

Lord Enfield states that no newspaper correspondents, English or foreign, will be allowed to accompany the Russian expedition to Khiva.

It is rumoured that Dr. Lushington's secret about Lord Byron has not died with him, and will be made public before long.

M. Raoul Duval, a noisy member of the Right in the French Assembly, has composed an epitaph on M. Thiers, which, to say the least, is very pointed. It is as follows:—

"Here lies Adolphe Thiers,
President of the French Republic.
He gloried the first Empire,
Was the justification of the Second,
And prepared the Third."

A critical memoir of the late Emperor Napoleon III., to which is added a political poem on the state of society in France in 1771 and 1871, by Mr. George Browning, F.R.H.S., will be issued in a few days.

The astounding number of almost 200,000 copies of the reprint of Prof. Tyndall's Lecture on Light has already been sold in America, and orders are still pouring in for them from all parts of the States.

A suggestion has been made for the improvement and simplification of the Royal Academy Exhibition this year—namely, to put pictures of the same class, such as landscapes, historical works, idealistic works, portraits, &c., side by side in the same room.

Dr. Coindet has just presented to the Public Library of Geneva, amongst other valuable objects, a complete manuscript of Rousseau's "Emile," with corrections and notes in the author's writing, as well as about 100 letters by the same, part of them unpublished.

Mr. Layard finds time, amidst the distraction of Spanish politics, to cultivate his old studies. He has contributed to the last number of the leading literary journal of Madrid, the *Revista de Espana*, an article on the painter Velasquez, written, of course, in the Spanish language.

The committee appointed to report on the Column of the Place Vendôme has decided to re-erect the monument as it stood when it was destroyed, and to record by two inscriptions the date of its demolition and that of its reconstruction. The work will be carried on so as to terminate at the time of the total evacuation of the French territory.

In the new front of Burlington House there are nine niches for statues, and the Royal Academy has lately resolved to commission its sculptor members to execute the following statues to fill them:—Phidias, Titian, Michael Angelo, Raffaelle, Leonardo da Vinci, William of Wykeham, Wren, Reynolds, and Flaxman.

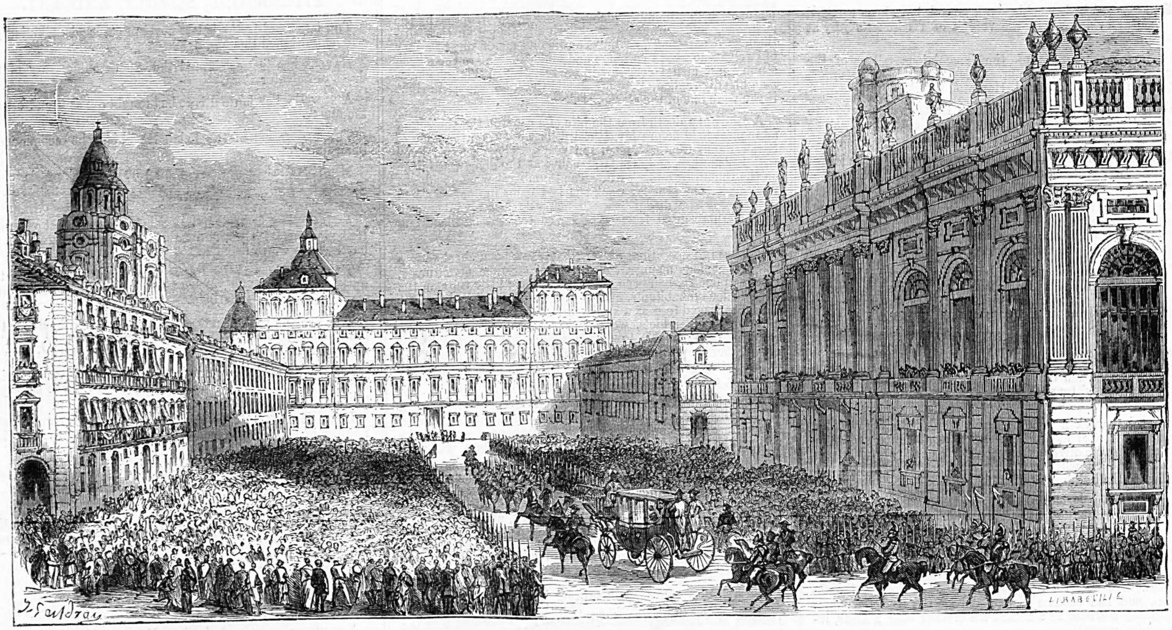
The splended old Sèvres and other porcelain and magnificent plate, from the collection of the Marquis of Londonderry, deceased, and several other examples of rare old porcelain, silver, &c., were disposed of at the rooms of Messrs. Christie, Manson and Woods, last week, before an immmense assembly. The whole produced £8,330.

At Paris, at a sale of the Deputy M. Wilson's gallery of paintings, the picture of the "Death of Sardanapalus," by Delacroix, was bought by M. Durand, a picture-dealer, for 96,000f., or very nearly 4,000l. The Duc d'Aumale was the real purchaser. In 1828 this picture could not find a buyer at 18,000f. The purchaser intends to send it to the London Exhibition.

A Yankee in Paris, who was listening to the boasts of a lot of English and French artists about the wonderful genius of their respective countrymen, at last "broke out," and said, "Oh, pshaw! Yeou git eout; why, there's Bill Divine, of our village, who kin paint a piece of cork so 'zactly like marble that the minute you throw it in the water it will sink to the bottom kuh-chug, jes' like a stone."

An Alabama editor mildly alludes to his rival as a "reservoir of falsehood and an aqueduct of mendacity;" whereupon his rival retorts by referring to his contemporary as a "bottomless pit of infamy, and an earthquake of blasphemy." An original Pennsylvanian editor comes out fairly and squarely. He calls his paper "An airy old sheet, devoted to wind, whisky, wickedness, and other religious matters. Vox Populus, Vox Belzebub."

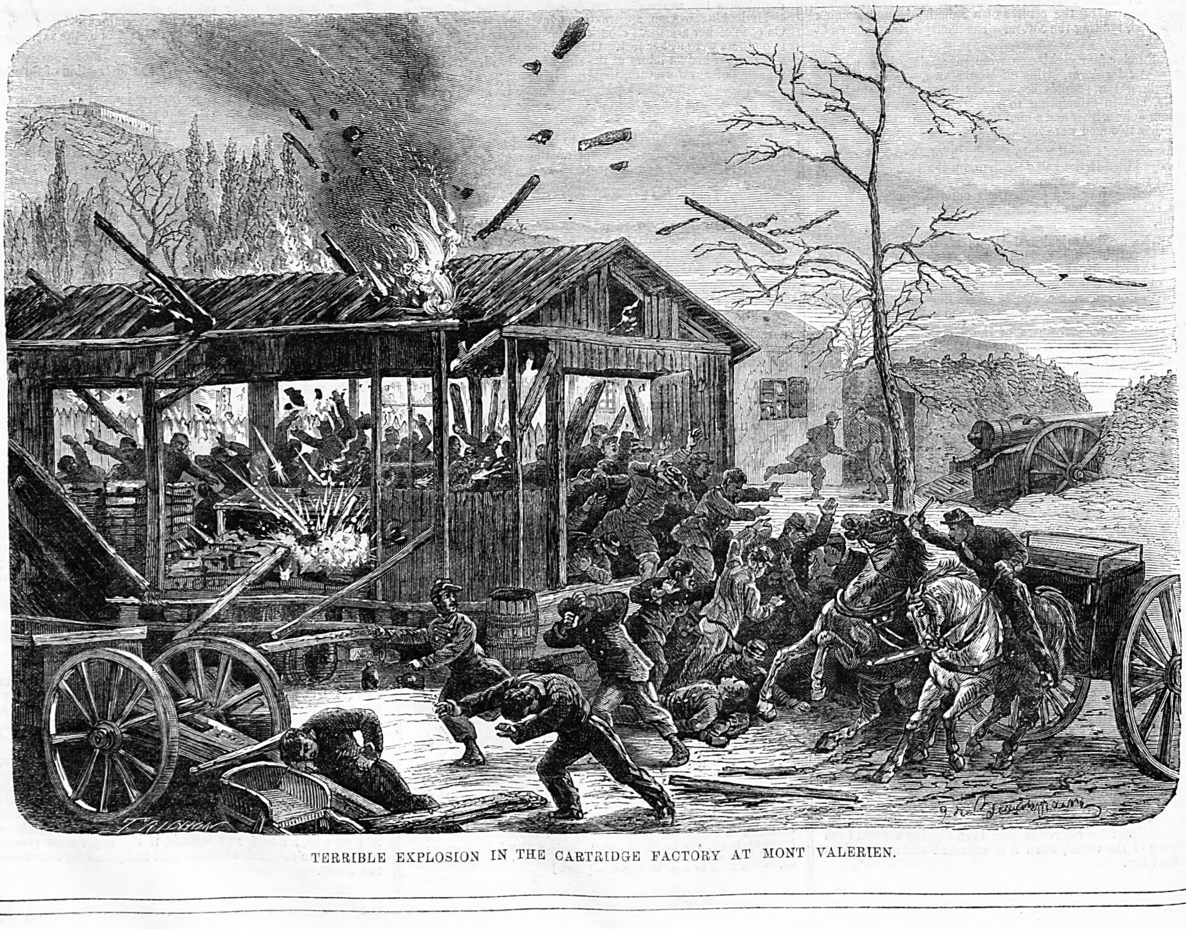
An adventurous American aëronaut, Professor Donaldson, intends this summer to cross the Atlantic to Ireland in a large balloon. This machine will weigh about 2,000lb., will contain 268,000 feet of gas, with two small reservoirs to provide against leakage, and an electrical arrangement for light. The professor calculates to accomplish his trip in from 17 hours to two days and a-half, and intends, if the experiment proves successful, to establish a balloon mail and passenger line round the world.



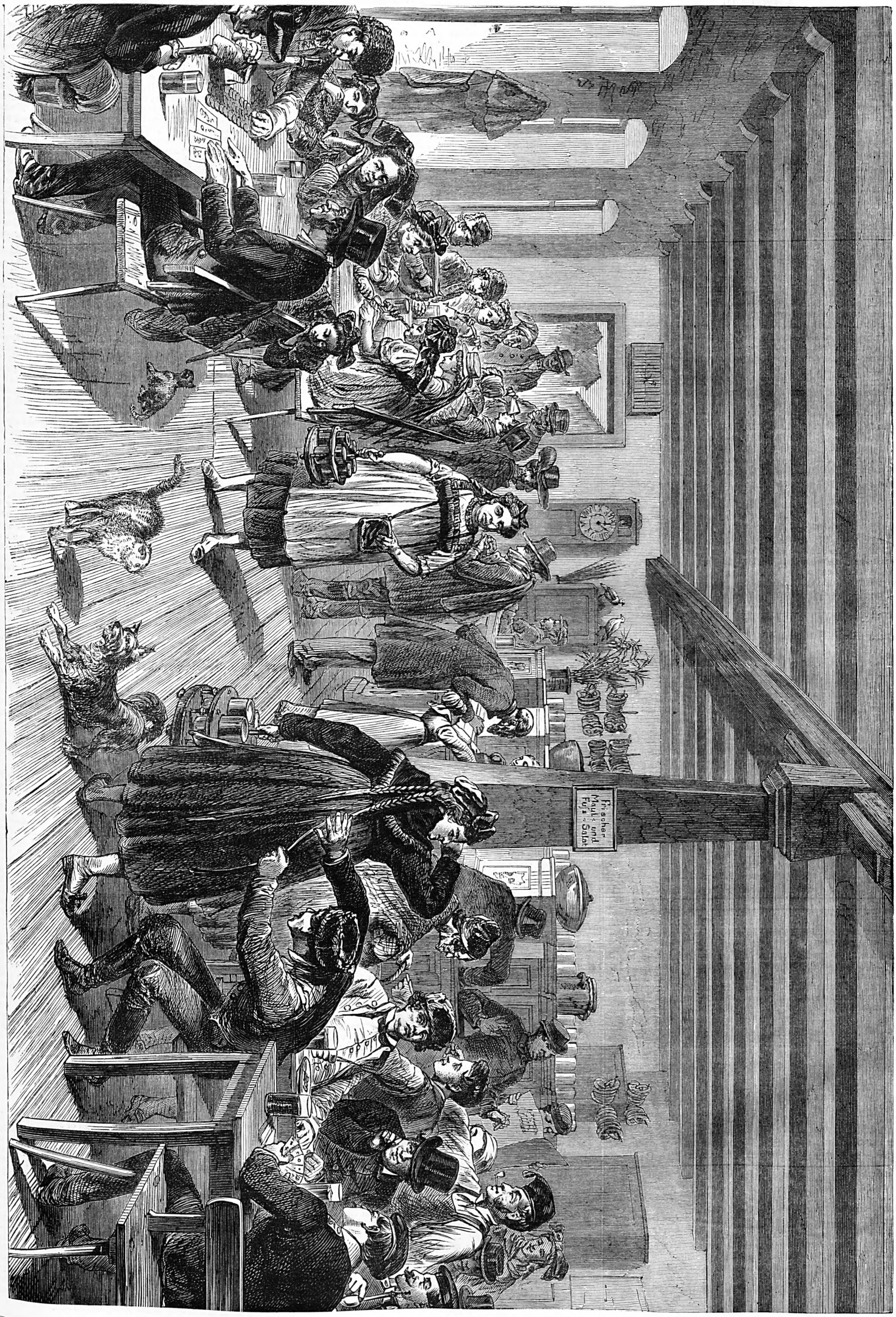
THE ARRIVAL OF THE EX-KING AMADEUS OF SPAIN AT TURIN.

King Amadeus and his consort, now the Duke and Duchess of Aosta, arrived at Turin on the afternoon of Sunday, the 9th inst., from Genoa. They were received at the station by Prince Humbert, the Prince of Carignano, and all the civil and military authorities, as well as the troops in garrison, the officers of the Order of the Annunziati, all the working men's associations, with their flags, and an enormous crowd. The meeting between the two brothers at the station was most affecting. From the railway to the Palace, flowers were incessantly showered down upon the ex-King and Queen. The first carriages were covered with bouquets, and the carriage in which Amadeus and his consort sat by the side of Prince Humbert and the Prince of Carignano could hardly proceed, so great was the throng of people pressing round it to kiss their hands. Amadeus was much affected. It is estimated that more than a hundred thousand persons followed from the railway station to the square of the Palace. Enthusiastic cheering continued for several hours. The Duke and Duchess of Aosta several times appeared, and thanked the crowd. All the authorities were received later by the Duke and Duchess. The whole city was splendidly illuminated, and an enormous crowd cheered and shouted, "Long live our own Prince!"

King Victor Emmanuel has conferred the rank of Lieutenant-General upon his son Amadeus, the ex-King of Spain. The latter has sent a letter to the Mayor of Turin in acknowledgment of the warm reception accorded to him by that city on his return from Spain.



TERRIBLE EXPLOSION IN THE CARTRIDGE FACTORY AT MONT VALERIEN.


Frischer
Maul- und
Fuſs-Salat

INTERIOR OF A STRASBURG BEER-HOUSE.

ABROAD.

A tissue-paper masquerade was given in New York, at which all wore dresses of that material.

The King of Siam has established two schools, under English masters at Bangkok, for the sons of the nobles.

The finds at the South African diamond-fields are gradually decreasing, and the last rush has proved a failure.

News has reached Holland from Java that famine prevails in some of the Dutch colonies, owing to the failure of the rice crop.

The passenger and freight depôts of the Erie railway at Ferryhouse, Long-dock, have been entirely destroyed by fire. The loss is estimated at £40,000.

The Emperor of China has consented to receive the foreign Ministers, dispensing with the performance of Kotow. The details of the ceremonial to be followed are under discussion.

News comes from the West Coast of Africa that preparations are being made to put an end to the disturbances which the King of Ashantee has lately created. English troops are being rapidly sent into the interior.

The sea-serpent has turned up again—this time in the Bay of Biscay. Its head is described as like that of a hippocampus, and its length is reckoned at about twenty-five feet. A large devil-fish was in close attendance when last seen.

Intelligence from Havannah states that the Cuban insurgents have attacked the town of Barojal. Several severe engagements are reported to have occurred in the central department of the island, both sides claiming to be victorious.

A resolution has passed the United States Senate, welcoming the abolition of slavery in Porto Rico "as a pledge of sincerity, and an omen of perpetuity for the Spanish Republic."

The Kirghiz chief Sadouk, with a large force of cavalry, is threatening the road from Orenburg to Tashkend. He served against the Russians at Tashkend and Samarcand, and is now engaged on the side of the Khivans.

The *Ceylon Observer* has been attempting to run a "pigeon express" between Galle and Colombo, and would very likely have succeeded had not a bloodthirsty civet cat wriggled herself between the narrow bars of the dovecot, and killed five of the finest pigeons in training.

The French Ministry of War is at present occupied with the plans of a new intrenched camp on the right bank of the Seine, in the neighbourhood of Rouen. The object will be at one and the same time to protect the capital and to keep open its communications with the sea.

"All well" is the nationally gratifying report which has just been received of the *Challenger*. Her cruise to St. Thomas was most successful; and on leaving the prosperous Danish settlement of the Antilles she will shape her course to New York, touching at Bermuda.

The Emperor of Russia has finally accorded a free pardon to all students implicated in the conspiracy of 1869, and permitted them to return from Siberia. The students implicated in the Netchayett trials have likewise been allowed to return to their university to complete their studies.

The *Englishman* publishes a telegram from Rawal Pindee, stating that Major Macdonald, the Commander of the fort of Michni, has been assassinated by the Pathans. He was shot through the leg and then cut down. The Commissioner of Peshawur is actively investigating the matter.

The British Vice-Consulate at San Domingo has been forcibly entered by order of the Dominican Government, and three persons taken prisoners "who were opponents of the sale of Samana Bay." This intelligence is supplemented with the statement that a British man-of-war has been sent for.

The Government of the Dominion of Canada has suffered a small but possibly significant defeat. A petition having been presented to unseat an Opposition member, the Speaker decided against the return. The Ministry, supporting this decision, found themselves in a minority of four votes.

In consequence of serious disturbances having taken place among the cadets at the French Military School of St. Cyr, the Minister for War has visited the school. One cadet who had been sentenced to be expelled has attempted to commit suicide, and now lies in the hospital. Ten others have been sentenced to military imprisonment for one month.

The preliminary inquiry respecting the conduct of Marshal Bazaine is ended. It is said that the charges of having neglected to burn the eagles and standards before surrendering them to the enemy, and of having held secret relations with Prince Frederick, are entirely disproved. The marshal is now allowed more liberty.

The news of the Franco-German Treaty caused some manifestations offensive to the German soldiery to take place in certain districts of the occupied departments of France. Nothing serious, however, has resulted as the German officers, making allowance for the circumstances, displayed great moderation and forbearance.

A local paper reports that the roulette bank at Monaco lost £20,000 on Friday week; and as a sensational climax it is announced that an Englishman who had taken the train from Monaco to Mentone, after winning £3,000, was found dead and robbed of his money and papers, the carriage exhaling a strong odour of chloroform.

Saturday last was the birthday of the Emperor of Germany and his Majesty was felicitated on the anniversary by his family, and all the Ministers, generals, and high officials in Berlin. On the same day were formally exchanged the official ratifications of the treaty between France and Germany for the evacuation of French territory.

On receipt of an "ultimatum" from the High Commissioner demanding the restitution of certain waggons and goods belonging to British subjects taken by Free State authorities and compensation for their seizure, the Executive Government of the Free State decided to give up the waggons and goods seized, and to pay £600 as compensation.

A protest has been lodged at Constantinople by the British Government against the increase of the Suez Canal dues, and the Government of the Sublime Porte has been given distinctly to understand that it will be held responsible for the extra amounts levied on British shipowners under the new arrangement. Russia and Germany, on the other hand, are said to have intimated unofficially to M. de Lesseps that they consider the company justified in making the increased charges.

An attempt has been made by Khivan emissaries to incite the Kirghese in the peninsula of Buzatch to revolt. They asked the latter to pay tribute to the Khan of Khiva, and to refuse to supply the Russians with camels and horses. The majority of the Kirghese, however, have remained loyal to Russia, and continue to ask for Russian protection. On the appearance of a Russian corps the agitation subsided.

In consequence of the urgent representations from Spain, the French Government is said to have ordered the Ministerial decision of the 27th of October, 1872, to be carried out for the expulsion of Don Carlos from France. A decree has also been published prohibiting the re-exportation of arms, ammunition, and all kinds of war material across the Spanish frontier, and the transit of such, if destined for Spain.

A meeting of the Left of the French Chamber took place on Sunday. They received the petitions for a dissolution collected by the *Siècle*, bearing 192,205 signature. In a debate relative to the re-erection of the Vendôme Column, after considering the heavy burdens that are pressing upon the Treasury, the meeting declared that the proposal to re-erect the Column at once was most in opportune, and that in any case they would vote against the intention of replacing the statue of Napoleon at the summit, and would present an amendment for substituting a statue representing a French soldier.

M. Rapp, Vicar-General of Strasburg, published a long letter, describing the procedure adopted towards him in regard to his expulsion from German territory by the authorities. His letter is dated from Belfort. A number of additional expulsions have been enforced since. Amongst those ordered to leave are the curé of Neu-Brisach, the curé of Rosheim, and two other priests. Pilgrimages to the Holy Virgin have been prohibited, and the priests are forbidden to go to Marienthal. The curé of Eckbolsheim, who has been deprived of his pay since August last, has been condemned to pay a fine of 180 francs for going to the church of his village to say mass. Every preacher has an agent of police among his hearers "taking notes."

The promised gastronomic exhibition in Paris opened on Sunday, and although hardly yet complete, about 50 of the 400 stands not being occupied, it comprised a fair assortment of comestibles and of accessories to the science of eating and drinking. A butcher has sent some magnificent quarters of beef and veal, and some prime samples of mutton; the show of poultry is good, but the shooting season being over, game is only very sparsely represented, the specimens being limited to Russian grouse, American pheasants, and a few other foreign birds. There is, however, a fair supply of water-fowl, and a good collection of fruit and vegetables. Wines and liqueurs of all kinds may be seen, and some of them tasted. The exhibition is completed by cutlery, dinner services, kitchen utensils, and other similar articles.

The police of Liege, in Belgium, have just succeeded in cpturing two Prussians, named Smith and Snyders, who had committed numerous robberies at Antwerp and other towns. These individuals, dressed as cattle dealers, were frequently absent from Liege for a few days together. An inspector of police had had his suspicion aroused against them, and had remarked that each of their voyages coincided with some important theft. They returned from one of their tours a few days back, and the inspector learned, almost at the same time, that a great jewel robbery had been committed at the shop of M. Anthony, at Antwerp. He therefore resolved to have them arrested: this was done, but not without difficulty, as they resisted, and one fired a revolver at the officer, wounding him slightly in the hand. His suspicions, however, proved to be correct, as the men had in their possession several of the stolen chains and pairs of ear-rings, which have been since identified by M. Anthony.

Two artillerymen in India have had a narrow escape in an encounter with a leopard. A native brought intelligence that a wild beast was seen roaming about, and a dozen of the artillery started in pursuit, two of whom were armed with fowling-pieces, the remainder having sticks. Sergeant Fisher was the first to sight the beast, and fired, hitting the brute in the hind quarters. Upon this the leopard turned and sprung at him, but sprung short. Seeing, however, Gunner Wooton kneeling and taking aim, it made a dash at him. Wooton fired, and hit the animal in the belly; but this did not save him getting into the beast's clutches, who dragged him down the khud for about thirty yards, biting him about the body and legs. Here Wooton made a struggle for mastery, and managed to get the brute under him and kneel upon it. It was impossible to fire for fear of hitting the man; but Gunner Morgan, armed only with a stick, dashed in most gallantly to the rescue, and striking the animal on the head made it spring up and leave Wooton. It, however, made a jump at Morgan, who by stooping managed to escape, but not without a claw-scratch, which took away a couple of square inches of flesh out of his arm. By this time the alarm had spread, and men with carbines were sent from the barracks. The leopard skulked off, but was discovered and shot dead by Gunner Dale. Gunner Wooton was carried off the ground insensible from loss of blood, but is now in a fair way of recovery.

The Spanish Republicans have achieved a great victory—the dissolution of the Cortes. The question was submitted to the Assembly by President Figueras himself, and he without difficulty carried the proposal for an immediate dissolution by a large majority. The Chamber has accordingly been dissolved. It is believed that the Spanish Government will accept the resignation of Senor Olozaga, the Ambassador at Paris, and also that fresh appointments will be made to the Captain-Generalships of Cuba and Porto Rico. The mustering of so many foreign men-of-war on the coast of Spain causes some uneasiness, which will not be diminished by the order issued from Berlin for the German squadron, after coaling at Plymouth, to cruise in Spanish waters. Germany, Russia, and Austria, refuse to recognise the Spanish Republic, on the ground that it was imposed on the Assembly by the pressure of the masses, and does not represent the will of the majority. Great complaints are to be heard everywhere in Spain about the conduct of the French Government. From Bayonne to Perpignan towns and villages are full of Carlists, who find refuge there after committing all manner of depredations on Spanish territory, and who are thus enabled to renew their supplies of provisions and munitions of war. The *curé* Santa Cruz himself—that sanguinary and ferocious chief—has passed two days on French soil, where he was *fêted* as a hero. Telegrams from Bayonne, published in the *Liberté*, state that an important battle had been fought, in which the Carlists were worsted; but neither place nor time is given.

THE GREAT BANK FORGERIES.

On Friday week the Bank of England received news of the arrival at New York of the steamship *Thuringia*, and of the arrest on board of George Macdonnell, for whose apprehension a reward of £500 had been offered.

On Saturday morning further intelligence arrived of the arrest of F. A. Warren, *alias* Horton (whose real name is Austen Biron Bidwell) at Havannah. It will be remembered that the first reward offered was for the arrest of F. A. Warren, with whom the Bank had opened an account at its Western Branch, and for whom they had discounted bills, alleged to be forged, to the extent of £100,000.

In the course of consequent inquiries the Bank had reason to believe other persons were concerned in the forgeries, and hence the additional rewards of £500 each for the apprehension of George Macdonnell and George Bidwell, who is said to be a brother of Austin Bidwell, *alias* Warren. It is satisfactory now to know that Austin Bidwell is under arrest in Cuba, and George Macdonnell at New York. George Bidwell, who eluded the police on Thursday, the 6th inst., in London, escaped to Ireland, and is believed still to be in the United Kingdom. It is to be hoped that we may soon hear of a claimant for the £500 offered for his apprehension.

Warren, otherwise Austen Bidwell, who has been arrested at Havannah, appears to have left England at an early date in this year. He is said to have been married at the American Embassy in Paris, in the beginning of February, to a young and attractive Englishwoman, the daughter of a deceased officer in the Indian army. Michel Haydon, an experienced officer in the City of London Detective Police, was put upon his track, and in Paris obtained such information as enabled him to trace the fugitive to a port whence he had reason for believing he had embarked in a vessel bound for Havannah. Acting upon that information, steps were taken, by the use of the telegraph and otherwise, to anticipate his arrival there, and which, as the result proves, led to his arrest. It is understood that a detective sergeant left London on Saturday evening last, armed with copies of the whole of the depositions taken so far in the case of the prisoner Edwin Noyes at the Justice-room of the Mansion House, and with a warrant signed by the Lord Mayor authorizing the transfer of the prisoner Warren, otherwise Bidwell, to the custody of the officer, in order to his being brought back to London and charged with complicity in the forgeries. Detective-sergeant Webb had been previously despatched by Colonel Fraser, the City Commissioner of Police, to bring back the prisoner George Macdonnell. After Austen Bidwell left Paris for Havannah, his brother (George Bidwell) and George Macdonnell appear to have operated in England, where they are found to have been in communication with each other so late as the 5th inst. During the whole of the month of February the Bank was discounting bills avowedly for F. A. Warrren, receiving letters from him dated Birmingham, and answering his cheques; and during this period large sums were drawn from the account of F. A. Warren at the Bank of England. The examinations at the police-courts show the course of proceedings adopted, and that United States' Bonds to a large amount were purchased by the moneys obtained from the Bank.

We now hear that bonds to a considerable amount were forwarded from this country to merchants and the Safety Security Company, New York, for Macdonnell and Austen Bidwell. They were sent by post from London, some to the care of Messrs. Duncan, Sherman, and Co., some to the New York Safe Deposit Company, others it is supposed to Boston. More are on the way. Attachments have been served for all these bonds, and also for a quantity of diamonds in the Custom House. Judge Faucher, of the Supreme Court, has also, on the affidavit of the attorneys of the Bank of England, attached Bidwell's estate in Chicago.

The Governments of the United States and Spain have, through their Ministers both here and abroad, given every assistance in their power. As to the prisoner Macdonnell, now in custody in New York, it is understood that a telegram has been received from that city by the solicitor to the Bank to the effect that he meant to resist his detention "to the very teeth"—with what result remains to be seen.

It is believed that the bills which were used in carrying out the frauds were engraved in the City, but it will be a difficult matter to prove that the engraver knew of the real purpose for which they were to be used. Any person can, of course, have bill-forms engraved, and it might be that in this case only few questions were asked. The Bank authorities have some information on the subject, and the parties who undertook the commission will be called upon to identify the accused. Although the prisoner Noyes is at present only charged with conspiracy, he will be henceforth treated as an accessory before the fact, which, by a recent Act, will place him in the same position as a principal, and render him liable to penal servitude for the remainder of his days.

It may have struck many readers as being not a little singular that the clerks in the Bank of England who were examined at the Mansion House should not be able to reply to Mr. Poland's questions respecting the weight of the gold which the accused Edwin Noyes carried away with him from the Bank. It was proved that in all the prisoner obtained 13,325 sovereigns in exchange for notes. We may mention, that according to the existing law (which was passed towards the end of the reign of George III.), 934½ sovereigns should weigh 20 pounds troy. That weight, however, not being in general use, does not convey an accurate idea of the weight according to the common avoirdupois. An arithmetical calculation proves that 1,000 sovereigns would weigh a trifle over 17½ lb. of our common weight, so that Noyes obtained from the Bank more than two hundredweight of coin.

Several of the widows of the late Rajah of Jodhpur—he is said to have had in all a dozen wives, besides a good many concubines—were exceedingly anxious, it appears, to perform *satti*, as the ladies of former rajahs had always done. But the new rajah, Jeswant Singh, refused to gratify their longing for self-immolation, and owing to his precautions no attempt at *satti* too place.

The mob-meetings in Trafalgar-square have at least one bad effect, if not more. The lions are being injured. During a meeting every lion is covered by a swarm of climbers and clingers, large and small; and though bronze is a fairly-enduring material, an examination of the left paw of the south-western lion will show both the violence which has been offered and also the unpleasant fact that the bronze is not much thicker than the side of a tin kettle. The foot of another lion seems to have been forcibly bent up from its place, and will perhaps eventually be broken off by some Fenian, and carried home as a trophy to his young barbarians.

OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

THE WRECK OF THE "CELINE."

The schooner *Celine*, of and from Gravelines, in ballast, went ashore on the Holm Sand, off Lowestoft, about eleven o'clock on Tuesday week, while the wind was blowing fresh from the N.E., and a heavy sea was running. The Lowestoft large lifeboat of the National Institution went off to the wreck, and found it full of water. Fortunately the lifeboat was successful in saving six of the shipwrecked crew, but the master could not be got to leave the vessel, and the men were compelled to leave without him, and had to cut the lifeboat's cable to enable her to clear the ship. As the tide fell there was not water enough on the sands for the large lifeboat, and the small lifeboat on the station, belonging to the Lifeboat Society, was then taken out to the sands, and was instrumental in rescuing the master, who was landed in safety in the course of the afternoon.

The report read by Mr. R. Lewis, the secretary of the National Lifeboat Institution, at the last meeting of that body, shows the valuable services rendered by this most energetic and successful of our philanthropic societies. The institution has now 233 lifeboats on the coasts of the United Kingdom and of the Channel Islands, and during the past year these boats saved the lives of 569 persons, and nearly the whole of them under circumstances of peril that would have precluded any other boats from getting to their aid. This was in addition to rescuing twenty-five vessels from destruction. Upwards of 300 persons were saved by the lifeboats during the storms of the last two months of the past year. During the year nineteen silver medals and votes of thanks, and £2,637 had been granted for saving the lives of 739 persons by lifeboats, shore and fishing-boats on the coasts and outlying banks of the United Kingdom. The number of lives saved during the forty-nine years from the establishment of the Institution in 1824 to the end of the year 1872, either by its lifeboats or by special exertions for which it had granted rewards, was 21,485. Since the establishment of the Institution it had expended on life-boat establishments and other means for saving life from shipwreck upwards of £300,000, and had voted ninety-one gold medals and 842 silver medals for saving life, besides pecuniary rewards to the value of £40,000. The total amount of receipts during the year 1872 had been £27,331. 14s. 4d., and the expenditure, including liabilities, £23,124. 4s. 7d.

THE COMMUNISTS IN NEW CALEDONIA.

The transported French Communists who have been sent to New Caledonia seem to lead a much more pleasant existence than those Republicans shipped to Cayenne in the days of the Empire. Two settlements have been prepared for their reception, the one on the Peninsula of Ducos, and the other on the Isle of Pines. The convicts are lodged in wooden huts, each containing six persons. They are allowed to stroll about, within certain prescribed limits, from sunrise to sunset, and only have to answer to the roll-call in the morning and evening. Those wishing to work are furnished with tools, and should they wish to work for the Government, are paid at the rate of from a franc to two francs-and-a-half a day.

Should they prefer to labour for the open market, this is permitted, commercial relations being established between Noumea, the capital, and the two convict settlements. The inhabitants of the former are allowed to visit the latter freely, the only restriction being that they are bound to enter and leave them at certain fixed spots, and are expressly forbidden to supply the convicts with any kind of intoxicating liquors. Several shop keepers of Noumea have opened stores within the boundaries of the settlements themselves.

It is described as a startling sight to see so many Parisian types at a distance of so many thousand miles from France. They seem to have accepted their lot with all the good humoured carelessness of their race, and appear determined not be cast down by their misfortunes. Good humour and also good conduct prevail, for it has hardly been found necessary to inflict any punishments since their arrival, and they bid fair to efface by their behaviour all reminiscence of their former misdeeds.

With a view to helping to make them good colonists, one hundred and ten wives of transported Communists will be shortly taken gratuitously to New Caledonia, to join their husbands. Every measure has been taken on board the transport ship, the *Loire*, so as to ensure their comfort and privacy, during the long passage from Toulon to Noumea.

PRESENTATION OF AN ADDRESS TO MONSIGNOR MERMILLOD.

On the Sunday following Monsignor Mermillod's expulsion from Geneva, depicted in No. 10 of Passing Events, he was visited at Ferney by the representatives of all the Catholic communes of the adjoining Cantons. This deputation was received by him in the courtyard of the College of Ferney, in presence of a crowd of sympathisers, estimated at three thousand people. A protest having been read in the name of the Genevese Catholics against the banishment of their Apostolic Vicar, the Bishop replied in an eloquent speech, in the course of which he remarked, that though he had been sent from his native land he would live in the hearts of all true Catholics. This speech was interrupted by loud and frequent cheers, and was followed by several other orations, after which the members of the deputation took their departure.

The religious excitement aroused by the proceedings of the Federal Council is far from having subsided. The Government of Berne have resolved to suspend all the Catholic clergy who refuse to obey its decrees for carrying out the decision of the diocesan conference at Basle. The Government of this canton has brought before a competent tribunal ninety-seven *curés*, who have declared that they will pay no respect to orders issued by the civil authorities relative to ecclesiastical matters. The tribunal has power to remove them from their *curés;* in the meantime they have all been temporarily suspended.

On Sunday the popular vote of the Canton of Geneva was taken on the Catholic Worship Reorganization Bill, which orders the election of the *curés* by the people. The Ultramontane organ published an article recommending abstention from voting. The article was of a violent character, and predicted civil warfare and bloodshed throughout the country. The Catholic mayors also recommended their co-religionists to abstain from voting. Perfect tranquillity, however, prevailed, as it was known that the Government was resolved to maintain order. Placards calling upon the citizens to vote in the affirmative on the Bill for the election of *curés* by the people were posted up, and others urging abstention. The voting is recorded as follows:—Out of 9,475 voters, 9,081 voted in favour of, and 151 against the measure.

Father Hyacinthe held his first conference at Geneva last week. Upwards of three thousand persons were present. As an Ultramontane journal of this city had contained a violent article, some apprehensions of disturbance were entertained, but fifteen gendarmes and an equal number of policemen, with a numerous body of detectives, sufficed to maintain order. Many of the passages of Father Hyacinthe's discourse were extremely eloquent; the whole of his address was of a deeply religious and Christian character. He entered at length into the present state of the religious question, and said it was impossible either to destroy, degrade, or expel Catholicism. Force, stratagem, and sophistry were equally impotent. The only thing to do was to reform it. Great indignation is expressed by the Ultramontane party.

INTERIOR OF A STRASBURG BEER-HOUSE.

The Germans have always been noted for their partiality to that pleasant decoction of malt and hops which is known as beer; but even in the days when Strasburg was a French city, its inhabitants were as fully equal to the consumption of this liquid as any of their neighbours across the Rhine. Their annexation has in no way interfered with their taste in this matter, and the various beer-houses are still nightly crowded by their accustomed frequenters.

Our engraving is from a sketch taken on the spot of the interior of one of these buildings by a German artist. It will be noticed that he does not in the least attempt to flatter his new fellow-subjects. An uglier set of people have seldom or never been held up for public inspection, and the somewhat picturesque attire of some of the women only serves the more to show up their clumsy figures and repulsive features. In this, however, he has only acted truthfully, for the women of Strasburg are really remarkable for the utter absence of grace or beauty amongst them.

SCENE IN THE SPANISH CORTES.

The Spanish Cortes was dissolved on Sunday. Mainly owing to the brilliant speech of Senor Castelar, a compromise was effected, by which the Radicals agreed, under the Conservative threat of a nominal vote, to modify the Porto Rico Bill and to permit a dissolution of the Chamber. The Chamber, on assembling, proceeded to elect a Permanent Committee. A proposal that each Deputy should vote for four candidates, and that the twenty candidates securing most votes should form the Committee, was lost, a few Republican members entering too late to vote. Upon their insisting on voting, so stormy an altercation arose, that the President declared the sitting suspended. The Chamber shortly afterwards quietly resumed its discussion, and an Annual Conscription Bill was passed without opposition.

The sitting was again suspended in order to arrange in the lobbies for a Porto Rico compromise, and about nine o'clock the Bill was carried unanimously, amid great excitement and applause. The Bill abolishing slavery in Porto Rico has been modified upon the basis of the amendment of Senor Garcia Ruiz. It provides for immediate abolition from the date of the promulgation of the law in the *Gazette*. The emancipated slaves will be obliged to engage themselves for three years to their present masters or others, or else to the State. They will enjoy political rights only five years after their emancipation. The indemnity to the owners is to be placed to the account of the Porto Rico budget exclusively.

The names of the members of the Permanent Committee were then agreed upon, and were all voted unanimously, except that of Becerra, who withdrew, in deference to Republican murmurs, in favour of Ulloa. Before one o'clock the House broke up amid cries of "Viva la Espana!" "Viva la Republica!" the public in the galleries responding with "Viva la Republica Federalista!" Perfect tranquillity prevailed in the streets. The Ministers having taken measures to prevent the forming of groups outside the House, there were barely twenty persons assembled to witness the departure of the Deputies.

THE PARIS SPRING MEETING.

The French, or rather the Parisians, are mad for racing, and have learned to compete with the crafty and cunning men who devote themselves exclusively to such matters: they had, it is true, a rough apprenticeship, and paid dearly for their acquired craft; but we are far from those good old times when Lord Henry Seymour used to bring his string of horses to run through the sand and gravel on the Champ de Mars. In those good old days Lord Henry's colours were almost invariably to the front, save on the few occasions when some Englishmen brought over some horses to compete with him. The Duke of Orleans was the milch cow; he felt it incumbent on his position as prince of the blood to encourage racing, and Lord Henry made him pay heavily for his patronage of the turf. The English division then carried all before them; but they can now scarcely hold their own.

Last week the spring meeting drew forth a long line of well-appointed equipages, some of them escorted by grotesquely-apparelled Winkles in sporting attire, looking around with anxious glances lest they might be detected in grasping the pommels of their saddles. This gay cavalcade was streaming towards the pleasant suburb of La Marche, and was lighted up on the way by a brilliant sun, which emblazoned the course. The principal race, the "Grand Steeplechase Annuel," was won by Marius, a splendid horse, who carried off the two chief prizes at Nice during the winter. He literally galloped down his field over a three-mile course. Amadou, who won the Selling Stakes, was again pulled out for the Prix du Printemps, which she carried off from Amiral in excellent style. Although only four horses ran in the latter race, as much as 12 to 1 was, for a certain time, laid and taken about Amadou. The return home was a sight to see, and, when the sporting carriages joined those of the usual promenaders in the Bois, a dead-lock was the result. It was for a long time impossible to pass the Lake, and the Boulevards were brilliantly illuminated before the last devotees of "le sport" reached their dining rendezvous. The gallop back to Paris is generally enlivened by some accidents, which are frequently amusing, and are rarely serious or fatal, save to the carriages and harness. One highly-decorated lady was pitched out of her carriage and left astride on her coachman's neck, who seemed much embarrassed by his fare.

Our engraving shows the betting lotteries, which are to be found on all French racecourses. The system is as follows:—A series of numbers corresponding with those on the race-card is displayed, and a fixed stake is announced, say five francs. You are then able to back the horse you fancy for that amount, or any multiple of it, as ten, fifteen, or twenty francs. After the race the sums bet on the losing horses are shared amongst those happy enough to spot the winner, the agency, however, pocketing 10 per cent. on the entire sum staked for its trouble. Thus the odds you receive depend entirely upon the amount of money staked on the other horses, and of this the tables of figures keep you aware, every bet being at once recorded by a mechanical apparatus.

THE EXPLOSION AT MONT VALERIEN.

On Friday, the 7th inst., a terrible explosion took place at Mont Valerien, the largest of the forts which defend Paris. The disaster occurred in a shed in which thirty workmen, the majority of whom were soldiers, belonging to the 103rd Regiment of Infantry were engaged in breaking up old Chassepôt cartridges. Twenty-nine of these were injured, principally by burns on the face and hands, but happily no lives were lost. According to the statements of the sufferers, the explosion was caused by the imprudence of one of their number, who, in spite of strict orders to the contrary, persisted in using his knife to remove the cap of a cartridge, and in doing so ignited the fulminating powder.

PASSED AWAY.

Sir Richard Church, G.C.H., who has for many years been a general in the service of Greece, at Athens on the 21st inst., at the age of 88.

M. Tacova, a well-known actor, author of a dozen vaudevilles, played in the minor theatres of Paris. His stage name was simply his real name, Avocat, read backwards.

Another death from intellectual strain (possibly) is recorded by *Nature*, viz., that of the interesting wasp referred to by Sir John Lubbock in his address at last year's meeting of the British Association. It slept away, as it were; first the head dying, then the thorax, and then the abdomen. It has been deposited in the British Museum.

Mr. Dorling, of Epsom, whose name was familliary associated with the racing cards which he issued. Mr. Dorling had been failing in health for some time, but it was not until within the last few weeks that his illness took a serious turn, terminating in his death on Thursday week, at Stroud-green House, Croydon. The deceased gentleman was in his sixty-eighth year.

Archdeacon Sandford, on Saturday last, on his 72nd birthday. He was the son of Bishop Sandford, of Edinburgh, and brother to Sir R. Sandford, the eminent Greek scholar, of Glasgow. He obtained first class in classics at Oxford, was admitted member of Balliol College in 1824; received the title of B.D. in 1846; was appointed to the canonry of Worcester in 1851. He had for some time been a member of the Lower House of Convocation, and exhibited great energy in its recent labours as chairman of the Committee of Convocation on Intemperance.

Mr. Partridge, President of the Royal College of Surgeons, and Professor of Anatomy at the Royal Academy, on Tuesday, in his seventy-second year. On the establishment of Charing-cross Hospital, Mr. Partridge became attached to it, and remained until the foundation of King's College, when he became Demonstrator, and ultimately Professor of Anatomy. Here he soon came into public notice owing to his great sagacity in the detection of a gang of murderers, whose career was cut short by the apprehension of Bishop, Williams, May, and Shields. The two first-named were professed "body-snatchers," who had followed the business for twelve years, and had sold from 500 to 1,000 bodies. They confessed, however, to only three murders, the last being a poor little Italian boy, one Carlo Ferrari, which led to their detection, as Mr. Partridge, then Demonstrator, when the body was taken to the dissecting-room at once suspected, from the general appearance, foul play, increased when one of the men volunteered an obvious falsehood in saying that it had been taken "in the regular way"—meaning from a grave. Mr. Thomas, the Superintendent of Bow-street Police Station, was sent for, and, to detain the suspected men until they came, Mr. Partridge produced a £50 bank-note for their payment, and asked for change. This they offered to go and procure, but the Demonstrator preferred going himself, and, telling them to wait and read the newspaper, went out to hasten the arrival of the police. When Mr. Thomas arrived he felt sure it was the body of a youth about whom some inquiries had been made. The men were at once arrested, and, at the trial, May having turned King's evidence, Bishop and Williams were sentenced to be hanged; their bodies were given to dissection, and the skeleton of the former now stands in the museum of King's College, holding a bit of his own tanned skin, the body having been presented to Mr. Partridge by the Council of the Royal College of Surgeons, who at that time by an Act of Parliament claimed the bodies of all persons hanged at the Old Bailey for murder, distributing them to the various anatomical schools in this metropolis.

It would, perhaps, be too much to expect that ordinary mortals should know the thirteen different parties who are helping to make Spain a desert. But the question of legitimacy is as clear in the case of Spain as of France. Don Carlos is by many regarded as the Henry V. of Spain. This, however, is not the case. Ferdinand VII., the grandfather of Don Alfonso XII., was the elder brother of the Don Carlos whose grandson is now making war on the Spanish lines of railway. Don Carlos, indeed, lays claim to being the legitimate sovereign in virtue of the Salic law which prevailed in Spain from 1713 to 1789. This was merely a French innovation introduced into Spain by Philip V., grandson of Louis XIV., who himself ascended the throne as the heir of Donna Maria Teresa. The right of females to inherit the Spanish crown has, however, been recognised for seven centuries. The Salic law, too, was expunged from the Code of Spain in 1789. The natural successor to Ferdinand was his only child, Donna Isabel; and although the King, when dangerously ill in 1832, lent his hand to the signature of a document which recognised his brother Don Carlos as his successor, he afterwards, upon his recovery, in 1833, swore fidelity to his daughter in the Church of St. Jerome at Madrid. These are the facts upon which the rival claims are based, and by their light it is not difficult to decide the question of legitimacy.

Epilepsy or Fits.—A sure cure for this distressing complaint is now made known in a Treatise (of 48 octavo pages) on Foreign and Native Herbal Preparations, published by PROF. O. PHELPS BROWN. The prescription was discovered by him in such a providential manner that he cannot conscientiously refuse to make it known, as it has cured everybody who has used it for Fits, never having failed in a single case. The ingredients may be obtained from any chemist. Sent free to any address on application to PROF. O. PHELPS BROWN, 2, King-street, Covent-Garden, London.

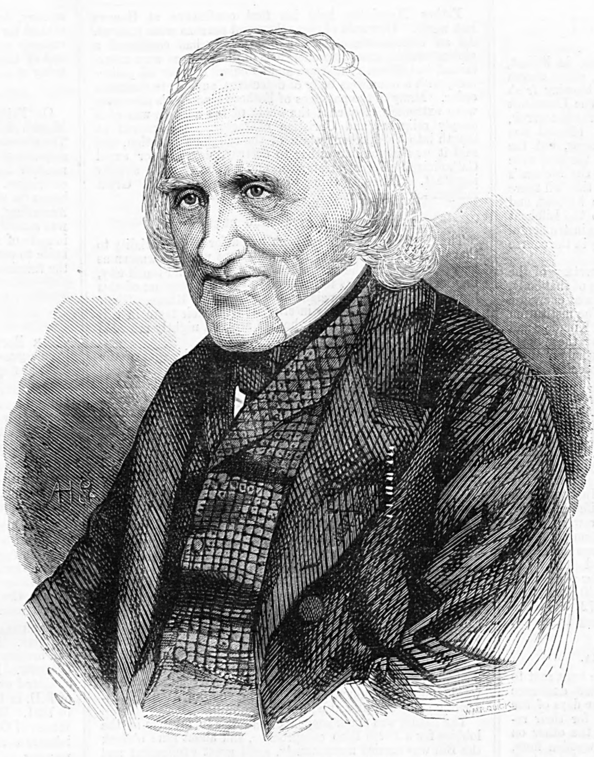
CHARLES KNIGHT.

Charles Knight first saw the light in the royal town of Windsor, in the year 1790. His father was a bookseller and publisher of some repute in the town, and seems to have had a good deal of that spirit of enterprise which afterwards distinguished his son. At the age of twelve he was sent to Ealing, to a somewhat famous classical school, presided over by the Rev. Dr. Nicholas; but at the end of two years he returned to Windsor to be apprenticed to his father's business. When his apprenticeship expired he went to London to devote himself to literature, and as a sort of probationary experiment, a friend of his father, Mr. George Lane, at that time editor of the *British Press* and the *Globe* newspaper, gave him occupation as a reporter; but at the end of three months he returned to Windsor. Convinced at length that the time had come for action, he published an article in the *Windsor Express*, of December, 1819, headed "Cheap Publications," in which he denounced the cheap, low-class literature of the time, and declared his intention of turning it to better account. This article brought Mr. Knight acquainted with Mr. Locker, Commissioner of Greenwich Hospital, the result of which was, on 1st February, 1820, appeared the first number of *The Plain Englishman*, which was published monthly, and was the first attempt to offer to the people cheap literature of an improved character; but the basis of this publication was not sufficiently popular. Mr. Knight's connection with Mr. Locker led to his undertaking the editorship of the *Guardian*, but the uncongeniality of this occupation soon induced him to relinquish it; and this same year he took premises in Pall Mall, and started in business as a publisher. *Knight's Quarterly Magazine* was the first-fruits of his career as a publisher; but it was discontinued after the sixth number, its sale not being remunerative.

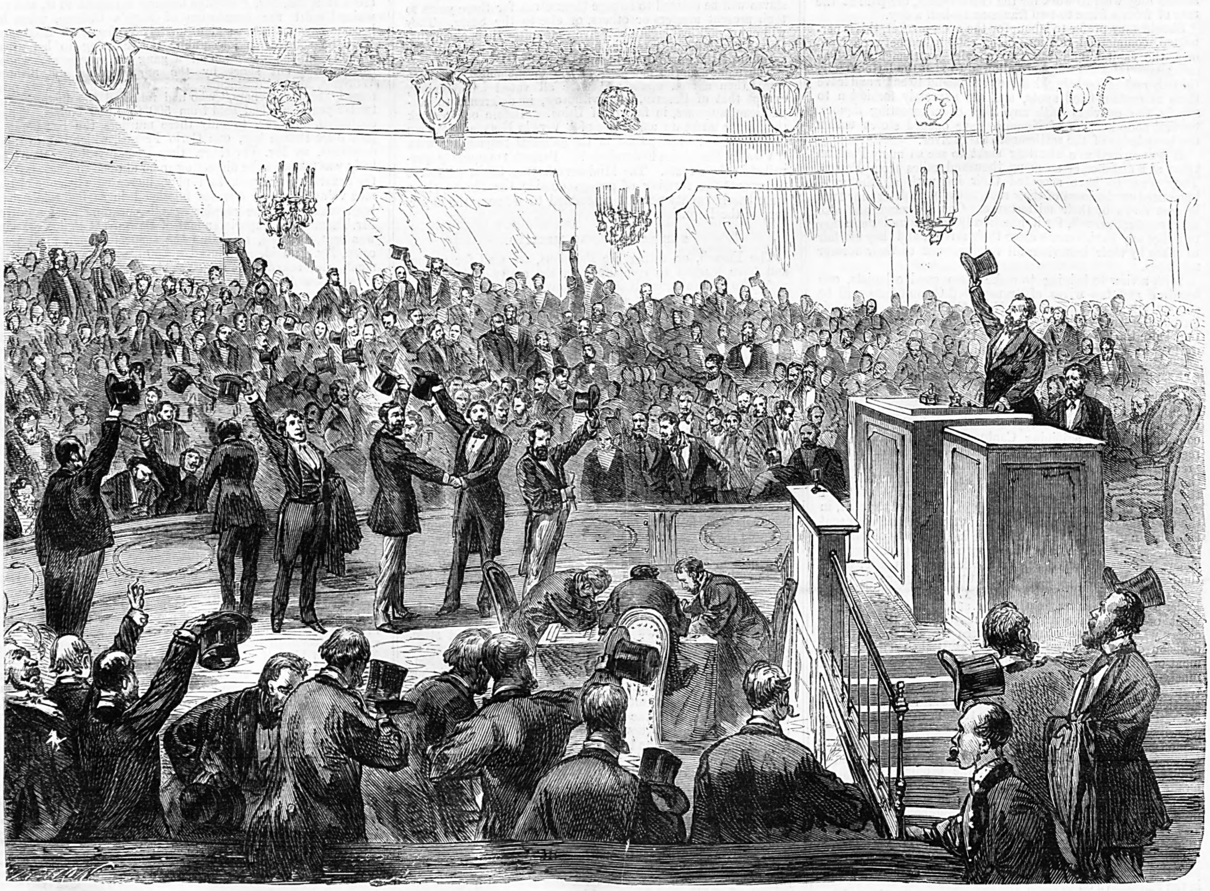
But Charles Knight never lost sight of the great object of his life, and he now projected the "National Library," the scheme of which was to condense into a hundred cheap volumes the information only to be obtained in very voluminous and very expensive works. Mr. Knight devoted all his best energies to ensure the project being carried out, but, for want of proper support, it seemed likely to fall to the gronnd, when Lord Brougham, who was at the time engaged in establishing the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, sent for Mr. Knight. The result was that the "National Library" was taken up by that society, and Mr. Knight's business was merged into Mr. Murray's.

In 1827 he became the publisher, and assumed the editorship of several of the works of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, the principal of which was the Library of Entertaining Knowledge, and into this congenial occupation he threw all his abilities. His large Catholic mind conceived the grand idea of producing a work of universal information in such a manner, and at such a price, that it should be obtainable by all; and in 1832 appeared the "Penny Magazine; and so far were his labours crowned with success, that before the close of the year the sale of this famous publication reached 200,000 numbers weekly. The appearance of this work marks an era in our social history; the next year it was followed by the "Penny Cyclopædia."

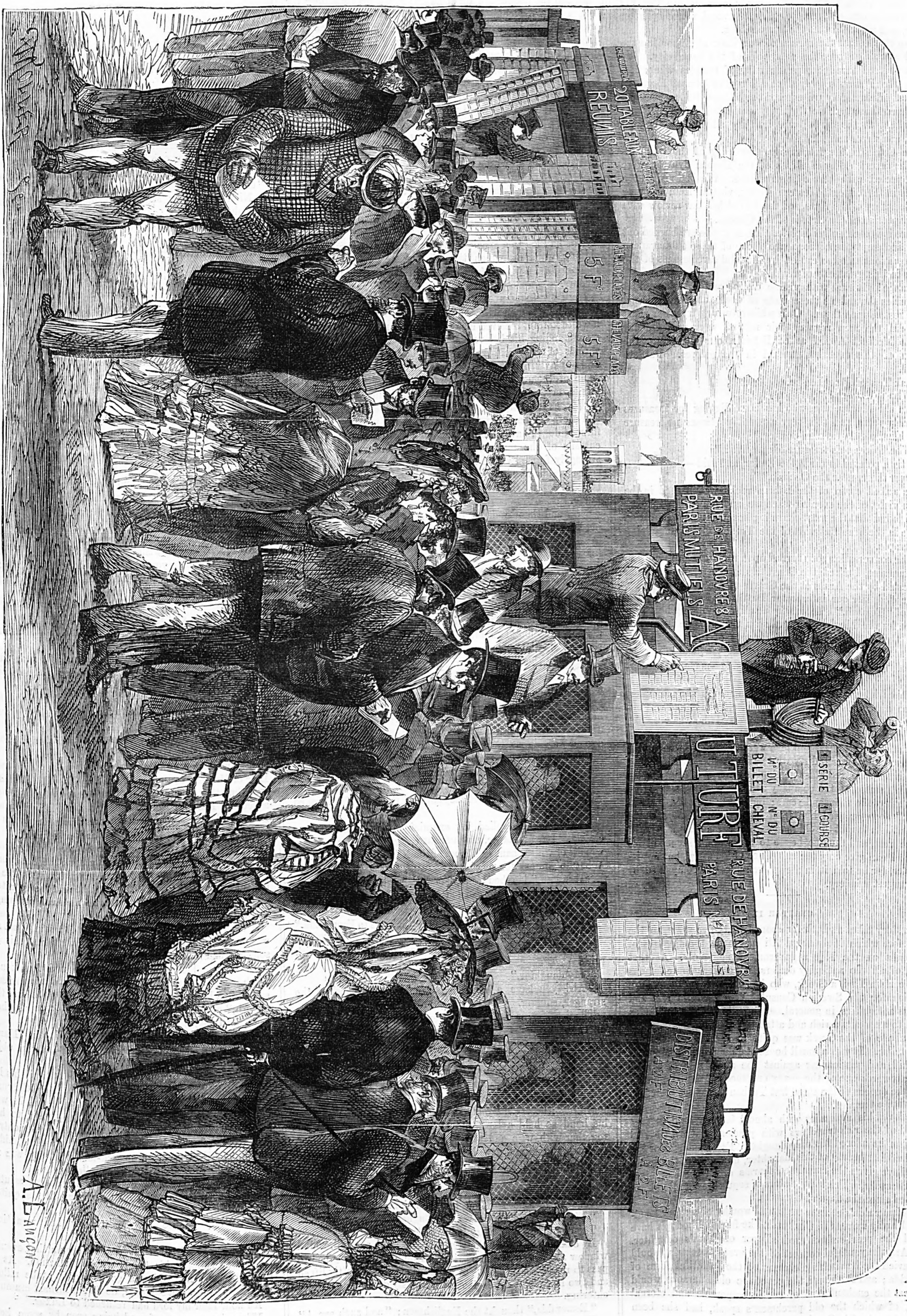
Besides all these arduous undertakings, Mr. Knight is the author of a Life of Shakespeare, and the "Pictorial Shakspeare." he published also two pamphlets, "The Struggles of a Book against Excessive Taxation," and "The Case of the Authors as regards the Paper Duty;" and to his strennuous efforts the public are indebted for the removal of that obnoxious tax on knowledge. He was occupied seven years in producing the "Popular History of England," which was completed in 1862; and besides many works of a minor character, he has given to the world, in three volumes, his own experience during his long and arduous career, under the title of "Passages of a Working Life during Half a Century," which appeared in 1863-4-5. He has also compiled "Half-Hours with the Best Authors;" "Half-Hours of English History." In 1866 he published a new compilation, entitled "Half-Hours with the Best Letter-Writers." During the same year appeared a new edition of "Knowledge is Power," and in 1868, he conducted through the press a new edition of the "Pictorial Shakspeare," which, says one of his many admirers, was the most congenial, as was the "Pictorial Bible," one of his most successful productions. Since then, up to his recent death, he has been resting on his well-won laurels.



THE LATE MR. CHARLES KNIGHT.



SCENE IN THE SPANISH CORTES ON DECREEING THE ABOLITION OF SLAVERY IN PORTO RICO.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A
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SÉRIE
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A. LANÇON

THE PARIS SPRING MEETING.—THE BETTING LOTTERIES.

THE MUMMY TRADER.

CHAPTER I.

The story which I am going to relate leads us into the land of eternal sunshine, where the statues are vocal, where sphinxes smile, and where blooms the sacred lotus.

Five times since the arrival of our bark at Luxor has the April sun shone over the necropolis of the royal city. We had wandered through gigantic ruins of temples where formerly the Pharaohs prayed to their now almost forgotten deities. Reluctantly we entered the pillared halls where had wandered those terrible divinities whose gold-hemmed brows never bent to the earth; who, horribly silent, only spoke in signs, and never smiled.

The Colossus, the Rhamseion, the Alley of the Sphinxes and the desert Valley of Death of the Theban dynasty, were all inspected with heroic perseverance. We had visited the graves in the distant Western Valley, viewed from afar only the Cemetery of the Apes, and finished at last our review with the inspection of the Graves of the Queens.

Here it is dreadfully desolate. These tombs are burned out black and empty, in consequence of one of those subterranean conflagrations so often caused by the fatal carelessness of the Arabs in this great city of death.

Strange! It was with visible dislike and reluctance that our guides showed us these halls of death, as if an especial curse rested upon them. Only while returning from our short visit did the men regain their natural manners. On our way to Medinet Abu, I asked Battista, our interpreter, the reason of this aversion, unusual in the natives. Battista smiled.

"Ask Temsah," replied he.

"Who is Temsah?"

"An old Moghrebine, who has been digging for treasures for thirty years, and this very moment possesses no treasure but a blind old Abyssinian donkey."

"Where does this treasure-digger live?"

Battista pointed towards the Luxor, and said—

"Over there, near the Obelisk."

The naked chain of the Lybian rocks was bathed in the purple violet of the evening when we landed again in Luxor.

We found that the most charming hospitality had set for us a table in the beautiful villa of the French Consul, adjoining the Temple.

As the conversation soon turned upon researches, antiquities, and mummies, I asked the Consul about the strange aversion manifested by the Arabs at the Graves of the Queens, and he, too, replied, like our interpreter Battista, by mentioning the name of "Temsah." To gratify us all, our obliging host sent at once for the Moghrebine, and soon that strange being—to whom the Arabs, no doubt, on account of the two snowy-white and large incisors in his projecting jaw, had given the name of "Temsah," which means crocodile—made his appearance.

All his lifetime Temsah had lived amongst the mummies, until he appeared like a mummy himself. His age was unknown, like that of a mummy. At all events he was very old.

His eyes were staring and glassy, like the enamelled eyes of the mummies; his chest and legs were tanned brown; a blue cloth around his head, dirty white trowsers around his loins, in his ears square, red glass pendents; such was Temsah.

Temsah stared at the company as if he was just waking up from a sleep of a thousand years; but the magic word, "Backsheesh," soon aroused him from his stupor. A few words from Battista taught the old man our desire; a glass of "raki" did the rest, and thus he began to tell a reminiscence of his youth. I can give only the substance of his story, but not its character, for he told it in abrupt sentences, accompanied by the strangest mimicry.

CHAPTER II.

Our story takes us back for about twenty-five years, to the time before which Mohammed Ali had made the diggings of the tombs on the Nile a government monopoly. At that period, of all the antiquity dealers, none were more famous than a certain Yani, a Greek, who had come there to make a collection for the Swedish Consul. Yani dealt in real and spurious antiquities in general. His collection of mummies offered to amateurs a rich and attractive assortment.

The abode of the Greek was quite in accordance with his merchandise. It was a small house standing on the slope of a sandhill, and was leaning against the steep side of a rock leading towards one of the many entrances of the Hypogees, where the queens of the three last Theban dynasties rested in their granite temples.

Yani loved his mummies with almost fatherly tenderness—the gold of the rich travellers with passion; but with a real fanaticism he adored his only daughter, Esmeralda. For the fresh, budding beauty of this daughter, now fifteen, the father would have given the embalmed charms of all the daughters of the Pharaohs, which the violators of sepulchres of all nations had rifled since the days of Cambesi.

And Esmeralda's charms were well worthy of a special culture. Hardly would the Cinderella-like foot of Rhodopis have entered the pearl-embroidered slipper of Yani's daughter. Nofre-Ari, the youthful consort of the great Sesostris, would have envied the bewitching charms of the beautiful form of Esmeralda; and Bathianti, the pet of the old Pharaohs, would have lost the enchantment of her incomparable and eternal beauty, of which the old parchments speak, had she been compared to the fair Grecian.

But Yani watched over his pearl. Only one man, except the happy father, could boast of having looked into the beaming face of Esmeralda; yet this man did not glory in it, for he turned "melbus" after he had seen it: that is, he lost his reason.

Poor Nimr!

When the people of Kun el Bagrat saw a man standing for hours in a scorching sun, they said: "Look here, Nimr, et melbus." And when the donkey-drivers met on their way from the landing-place of the "Sycamore" to the "Idols," a human form lying motionless on the ground, his face buried in the hot sand, they would ask him, laughing, "Say, Nimr, what do the moles tell thee?"

And when the women of Kurnah, descending to the holy stream in the evening, with the water-pitcher on their olive shoulders, found the solitary "melbus" sleeping amongst the high reed grass—"Poor Nimr!" they would whisper to each other; "he is waiting for the golden ship, with the silver-white lady in it, and drawn by a blue-fish."

To reach Yani's costly museum, one had to enter first his dwelling, where Temsah—our narrator was, at that time, in the service of the Greek—would direct the customers to a small, low hall, the painted walls of which exuded a greasy, sticky liquid.

This hall led to a spacious, moderately high rotunda, on the shining walls of which the Egyptian fresco-painters had immortalized a piece of their national life in the most vivid colours.

Here, stretched upon a Cordova mat, by the light of a lantern, the little man with the astrologer's beard, and dressed in a white kaftan, received his customers of rank. Around him were standing his beloved mummies, in their many-coloured shrines of cedar and sycamore. They looked like fantastic dolls—playthings of a past generation of Titans. How vivid some of them appeared, smiling woefully with their eyes of humid crystal! Others, again, were reclining, with withered eyelids, as if weary and tired from protracted prayer. Here and there one could perceive earthen vases, with covers in the form of dogs', hawks', or jackals' heads. They contained the entrails of the mummies. Fragments of every kind, aad strangely-formed vessels, were scattered around the floor.

Esmeralda lived a lonely life, like a hidden, marvellous bird in a cage. Her only companion was Isba, her Nubian nurse.

Now and then Yani, her father, made his appearance, bringing with him some rare jewel, which his workmen had found in some sepulchre. This caused a childish pleasure, but only for a moment. And when the father had gone, the young Grecian girl threw the ornament, with a sigh, into her jewel-box, amongst many other beautiful, but soon forgotten things. "Why adorn and bathe myself in perfumes? Why be beautiful and charming, if only to be an eternal secret?" thought Esmeralda, while reclining on her soft purple cushions. Often did she weep long and bitterly, and Isba, her Nubian nurse, remembering her own youth, wept with her.

One day there appeared on the Assassif hill where Yani's people were digging mummies under their master's inspection, a wealthy-looking, middle-aged traveller. The stranger, who spoke Arabic with ease, inquired for the Greek, who answered him in person with a most pleasing face. The day had been a successful one, and here, perhaps, was a chance for driving a good bargain, as the stranger had all the appearance of a millionaire. On the way to his now distant dwelling, Yani drew forth a costly ornament, which he had taken that morning from the neck of a mummy.

"What does your Excellency think of this jewel?" he asked the stranger?"

"Wonderful!" replied he, examining the ornament more closely. It was a large, magnificent emerald, surrounded by a wreath of white enamelled roses of the Nile; "it is wonderful! What do you ask for this jewel?"

"It is sold," laughed Yani; "or rather, given as a present."

The Englishman—for as such we recognise the stranger—made some incredulous motion.

"It is so, your Excellency; the jewel belongs to Esmeralda."

"Who is Esmeralda?"

The eyes of the old Greek spoke fire, and he replied with pride—

"My daughter."

"Ah! you have a handsome daughter?" remarked the stranger, smiling.

The dark features of Yani lightened up, and his eyes moistened, as he said:—

"The light of my eyes and the staff of my age."

At this moment a crowd of naked, brown boys came up, swarming around a man who came down the steep path of Deir el Medinet. A ragged, scarlet shirt scarcely covered the tall figure. Around the dark forehead waved a dirty-yellow headdress; across his shoulder hung a leather pouch, and in his hand he held a long and rusty gun, tied and fastened together with wire and strings. The man passed quite near to the stranger, and gave him such a sinister, menacing look that the Englishman involuntarily shuddered, and asked the Greek—

"Who is this man?"

"A poor melbus——Nimr, the hyena-hunter," replied Yani.

"What a look!" murmered the Englishman.

They entered the solitary house of the Greek.

By chance the eye of the stranger fell upon a small, round window at the end of the corridor, through which they had to pass to reach the rotunda. A closed curtain was softly lifted and two large black eyes looked curiously down upon those entering.

"Esmeralda," thought the Englishman; "and such eyes!"

The visitor, though charmed at Yani's costly collection, could not come to any conclusion or purchase; he proposed a second visit.

Esmeralda received the ornament from her father with joyful glee. Never had the Greek seen his child merrier, happier. The lovely Esmeralda did not know herself why there was so much sunshine in her heart.

CHAPTER III.

The next day the stranger was again at Yani's house. He looked at everything and admired all, but—would not conclude a bargain. For some time the Englishman paid a daily visit to the mummy-trader. By degrees he became a noted personality to the inhabitants of Kurnah, and the Fellah women looked smilingly at the handsome figure and finely-cut, marble-white face of the rich "Enklizi" with the "open hand," as they called him.

Truly, the generosity of the rich stranger was the general topic. There was one man, however, who did not join in the song of praise of his countrymen, and that one was Nimr, "el melbus."

Nimr hated the stranger, furiously, indelibly, as only the Pariahs can hate.

"Why is it?" they would often ask each other in the Fellah villages.

Late one evening Lord M——, accompanied by Temsah, returned from Medinet Abu to Luxor. On the spot where the path from the "Idols" to the landing-place crosses the road from Esneh, the tardy travellers found a man in rags cowering by the roadside. The Englishman pulled out a piece of gold from his pocket, and threw it down at the supposed beggar. But with a sudden leap the man sprung to his feet, and with a hoarse laugh he flung the money back into the giver's face, while Nimr, for it was he, walked proudly off through the fields. From Lord M—— escaped a much-astonished "Oh!" with that well-known intonation, while Temsah slipped the gold coin, with great dexterity, into his own pocket, and both continued their road. Suddenly they were roused from their silence by the report of a gun, and a ball passed over the Englishman's head. This was too much. In a moment Temsah, who did not at all fancy such an attack of the hyena-hunter upon his "goldman," alarmed the people of a neighbouring khan, and the chase after the murderer begun. He was soon caught and brought before Lord M——.

"For whom was your ball intended?" quietly asked the Englishman of the poor wretch.

"For you," was the laconic reply.

"And why do you wish to kill me?" continued Lord M——.

"Because I hate you!" replied Nimr, with flaming eyes.

"You hate me?" continued Lord M——, smiling; "what have I done to you?"

The hyena-hunter answered with a wild laugh.

"You are an evil spirit."

The Fellahs involuntarily stepped back, and examined the Englishman with timid looks.

"Poor melbus," the latter said, pityingly; and, turning to Nimr, he said: "You refused my gold because I am an erfet!"

The hyena-hunter made a gesture of horror.

"Go," said Lord M——, smiling, and in a gentle tone; "you were going to kill the efret, and the efret gives you in return life and liberty."

A few days later Yani was occupied at Biban el Moluk, and Esmeralda was alone with her Nubian nurse.

A man came hastily up the solitary path that leads from Deir el Medinet to the Graves of the Queens. It was not the first time that this man came through this path during Yani's absence. His eyes were turned from a distance toward the house of the Greek, from which was waving a white cloth at one of the barred windows. "Was it a signal?"

A hundred feet from the house of the mummy-trader, the wanderer suddenly halted, throwing back the blue veil, which he wore as a protection from the glaring sunlight. He thought he had seen a dark head rising from behind the granite-block; or was it, perhaps, the black hawk which was sleeping on the rock, motionless as if hewn from stone.

A dead silence reigned all around—not a sound, not a breath was heard; even the cricket, usually a lover of this glowing solitude, had hushed his music.

Everything looked dreadfully mute and forsaken, like a tomb. For a moment the wanderer stood motionless, when suddenly a large, bronze-coloured lizard crossed over the path.

"Ah," murmured he, "this is a good omen, as the Arabs are wont to say."

The stranger entered the house of the Greek. Hardly had he advanced a few steps in the corridor when an object felt down at his feet. It was a purple flower.

He picked it up, and pressed it with fervour to his lips.

Above, on the small, round window, he heard the rustling of a curtain, and a graceful woman's face appeared between the dark folds, with one finger significantly pressed to her lips, when a sudden, wild laugh, which came from the entrance of the corridor, caused the stranger to turn around, hiding the flower in his bosom; a ragged-looking being was running toward the rocks of the Western Valley.

At this moment Yani entered the corridor, saluting the Englishman, who was so much astonished, that he quite forgot to answer him.

The lovely picture in the window had meantime disappeared.

When the Englishman left Yani's museum that evening, the latter was rubbing his hands with satisfaction. At last he had succeeded in making a good bargain; the milord had weighed up in gold a splendid, double-enshrined mummy.

An hour later my lord had returned to Luxor.

When he no more feared being seen by some betraying eye, he drew from his bosom his purple flower. From its wonderful chalice slipped a small rolled-up paper, on which was written the single word, "Bukra," which means tomorrow.

CHAPTER IV.

It was a day of mourning in all the Fellah villages on both sides of the great river from Abu Hamud up to Karyeh; Lord M——— was leaving Luxor; some important dispatch urged the "Enklizi" with the "open hand" to a sudden departure. He did not go alone, however, but in company of Yani's most valuable mummy.

Near the "Sycamore" was anchored the stately bark of the Englishman. Everything was ready for the departure, which was to take place that very evening.

On the painting bow of the vessel sat, with a rosary in his hand, Mansur, the raïs of the bark, as inflexible as a pagoda. On the shining deck reclined the sailors—a dozen of brown, weather-beaten fellows; they were playing with round cards for a heap of white shells, on which the sun, moon, and stars were painted.

At this moment Yani arrived in great haste, riding his grey steed. He jumped off quickly, and stepped on board the dahabieh, where he exchanged a few words with the young raïs.

Mansur sent one of the sailors down into the cabin, from which he was to bring a small box. It was the medicine-chest of my lord, who was lying sick in Yani's house with a severe fever; and, as Temsah could nowhere be found, my lord begged the mummy-trader himself to go and fetch him his medicine-chest, which contained a sure remedy for all sudden fevers.

A few moments afterwards the Greek rode off again, with the valuable box under his arm.

It was a matter of great importance, for the carriers, which Yani had engaged to take away the mummy, were perhaps already waiting at his house.

Soon after Yani's departure, Isba had opened a small back gate, uttering a peculiar gurgling sound; and Temsah, who but a few moments before could not be found, stood before her, as if grown out of the earth.

Isba made him a secret sign, and both disappeared in the interior of the house.

In the rotunda stood waiting the Englishman, trembling, but not from fever, only with a strange uneasiness, when suddenly a tall, slender, veiled figured appeared in the doorway. Lord M——— whispered, "Esmeralda!" passionately pressing his hands to his heart.

The veiled figure slowly raised her finger to her lips, and walked on with a faltering step towards the beautiful shrine of the mummy, wherein lay sleeping the brown woman.

At this moment Isba and Temsah entered the rotunda.

Lord M——— made a mute sign, whereupon both stepped up to the shrine, and opened the cover; and when the carriers came to take away the closed coffin, the veiled figure had disappeared.

Yani met the carriers of the mummy about halfway to his house.

My lord was better, although suffering somewhat yet; but the medicine was not required at present.

It was dark already when they arrived at the landing-place.

Lord M—— kindly thanked the respectable sheikhs of the surrounding villages, who had come to bid farewell to the foreign bey, who had emptied his purse so generously into their hands.

The sailors were already busy with the shipment of the mummy, when suddenly Nimr, the hyena-hunter, pressed through the crowd, and threw himself upon the shrine; and with a most desperate shriek he called—

"Esmeralda!"

"El melbus!" screamed the Fellahs, springing back frightened.

Nimr was terrible to behold. In vain did the sailors try to tear him from the coffin—the maniac embraced it anew, gnashing his teeth, while inarticulate sounds escaped his lips.

Lord M—— grew pale, and was struggling to keep up a good countenance. But to Yani the scream of the maniac had pierced to his inmost soul, though unable to explain it himself.

"Ten pieces of gold will I give to him who will put this melbus out of the way!" called out the Englishman, perceiving the consternation of the mummy-trader.

In a moment more than twenty arms were raised to secure the maniac; but, before they could retain him, the latter had rushed upon Lord M——.

A scream of horror was heard, then the report of a pistol, and the hyena-hunter fell down groaning, and with a broken arm. The Englishman stood erect, pale, but quietly holding the still smoking pistol in his hand, looking around among the terrified spectators, then waving a signal.

The evening breeze had unfurled the flag of England, and half an hour later the dahabieh was sailing gracefully past the island of Uruzieh.

Soon the monotonous song of the sailors died away in the distance, and everything had disappeared like a vision.

* * * * * * *

It was late when Yani returned to his home. He was anxious to see Esmeralda. An unspeakable anguish had seized him—a dark and gloomy presentiment had come over him. He enters his house.

"How solitary and how dreadfully silent is it here to-day!"

With a trembling hand he opens the secret door of his daughter's dressing-room. Another step, and with the cold sweat of death upon his brow, he enters.

But no one here! and no one there! He rushes frantically to the Hall of the Mummies. But here are only the dead in the shrines.

But what is this over which his foot stumbled? It is a body lying on the ground. Terrified, Yani stoops down, and recognizes, by the light of the lantern, the mummy which he sold but yesterday to the Englishman. And now it dawns terribly on the mind of the father. He understands the ravings of Nimr.

The mummy which the stranger had carried away was Esmeralda, the light of his eyes, the staff of his age! Poor Yani!

Esmeralda, the nurse, and Temsah, had disappeared!

CHAPTER V.

Years had passed. Since that memorable catastrophe, the poor, crippled hyena-hunter had become the best friend of the rich mummy-trader. Yani knew now the cause of Nimr's insanity, and he felt a deeper pity for him.

In Esmeralda's room everything was left the same as on the day of her flight Here still lay the silken cushions on which the beautiful girl had rested. There stood the long-necked water-pitcher beside the silver wash-basin; the elaborately-worked perfuming-dish, with some of the ashes of the aloes on it yet. In a corner lay the gold-embroidered slippers, and in a small niche hung an enamelled picture of the Virgin, set in pearls. In the sandalwood drawers were kept all the jewels that had belonged to Esmeralda. Only one was missing—she had taken it with her! It was the emerald—the last present from her father.

Here the poor father sat musing and dreaming of the happy time when Esmeralda tarried yet in this room, where she smiled, talked, and adorned herself, or knelt before the picture of holy Mary. If Yani tore himself away from this sweet vision, it was only to brood again for hours over his sorrow in the silent Hall of the Mummies, where Nimr was waiting for him. They only and ever spoke of Esmeralda, and hushed simply because the tears had suffocated their words.

Such was their life for many years—helping each other to bear the weary hours.

One day Nimr came running, breathless, to the rotunda, and begged Yani to follow him with a lantern. He had pursued a jackal, which had suddenly disappeared behind a rock near Yani's house. While searching for the animal he discovered an opening, through which he crawled without further deliberation. Soon this corridor widened, from which others ran off to the right and to the left.

Nimr, afraid of losing his way, turned back to communicate his discovery to his patron. Provided with lanterns, both returned to the secret corridor. Hardly had they advanced about twenty feet, when they discovered a high chapel, similar to the rotunda in Yani's dwelling. Numerous paths led in different directions into the interior of the mountain. Mummies of all kinds and forms were scattered around, or looked out from their narrow niches. In the middle of the vault stood an open sarcophagus, in which lay a splendid coffin, containing a mummy. With eagerness Yani threw himself upon this new discovery. Soon the wooden bands gave way, and the cover fell to the ground. A second covering hid the object yet to their view. This was, however, soon removed, and then a loud cry of astonishment broke forth from the lips of Yani and his companion.

By the flickering light of their lanterns they beheld the mummy of a woman, so wonderfully preserved, as if it was but yesterday that she was dipped in the balm made of aloes, myrrh, cinnamon and cassia. An unearthly, overpowering beauty beamed from the youthful face; the dark, enamelled eyes appeared like black diamonds; a costly golden ornament glittered from her smooth, marble forehead; and the carefully braided raven hair was lying, like slumbering serpents, upon her richly jewelled bosom. The embalmer, the painter, the gilder, the caligrapher of the hieroglyphs, all had rivalled with each other to give to this royal mummy the appearance of a wonderful and mysterious life for thousands of years.

Eternal and imperishable and time-defying, like these granite temples, should be her beauty. Such was, no doubt, the desire of that king who had loved this mummy in life.

The longer the two men were contemplating this strange sleeping figure, the more they noticed a certain resemblance to a face which was so dear to them.

"Look at Esmeralda!" whispered at last the old man, with beaming eyes.

And Nimr looked again until his eyes were bathed in tears.

"Allah is great!" he murmured, at last; and the two men fell weeping into each other's arms.

A short time after the discovery of this handsome mummy, two visitors appeared one morning in Yani's desolate dwelling. A young married couple from England, who arrived a few days ago at Thebes, had heard of Yani's collection, and determined upon the purchase of a few antiquities.

Following their guide, our visitors advanced to the rotunda, where, as was generally known, the old Greek loved to retire. But in vain they sought Yani. The rotunda was forsaken.

The guide soon discovered a dim light coming from one of the corridors at the side, through which the strangers entered, and a few moments later they stood at the entrance of the chapel already mentioned; for Yani and Nimr had discovered and repaired the original path leading to it from the old rotunda.

What a strange spectacle!

Before a beautiful sarcophagus, by the dim light of a lantern, were sitting Yani and Nimr, both motionless and sunk in the deepest ecstacy. In the coffin lay the charming mummy, which seemed to be smiling towards the two dreamers.

Only when the guide called Yani by his name did they arouse from this lethargy, and measure the intruders with angry looks.

The Englishman made a few steps towards the mummy, but Nimr threw himself in his way, shaking menacingly his mutilated arm, as if wishing to protect the dead with his living body.

The young lady was alarmed, but the guide calmed her by saying—

"A poor melbus; do not fear."

Yani beckoned his unwelcome guests to follow him.

Nimr was left alone in the chapel, while the others entered the mandarah of the Greek, which looked so desolate and abandoned, as if no human foot had passed the threshold for years.

Here the daylight permitted them to look at each other more attentively.

Suddenly, while the guide translated to the mummy-trader the wishes of the strangers, the Greek shrunk together, while his eyes rested upon an emerald which the fair English lady wore on her neck. Yani no longer listened to the interpreter; his whole soul was in his eyes, and those were staring at the lady's jewel. Then he rose slowly, and his bent and pitiful form seemed to grow, while he stretched out his hand, and touching the pin with his finger, he asked, in a solemn voice—

"From whom did you get this jewel?"

The lady timidly shrunk back from his touch, and crossed her hands over her breast. Her astonishment grew still more when the guide interpreted the old man's question.

"From my father," she replied, trembling.

"Who is your father?"

"Lord M——," she answered through the guide.

A low cry escaped the mummy-trader; his arms sank down, and his eyes closed; but soon recovering himself, he vehemently pressed the hand of the lady, and said, with an imploring tone:

"By the love of your mother, tell me who gave him this jewel."

The young Englishman, who was astonished at Yani's conduct, now answered for his wife—

"My father-in-law received the jewel from a foreign woman, who had followed him from a distant country to England."

"From a distant country," murmured the Greek, with a bitter smile; "from the Nile?"

"So they say."

"And did you know the woman?"

"No. She died soon after her arrival in London."

Yani's head sank down upon his breast, and he fell groaning to the ground.

When he woke from a long unconsciousness, the strangers had gone, and the ever-faithful Nimr was kneeling beside him.

Yani stared bewilderedly around, but he seemed to remember what had passed; then, covering his face with his hands, whispered—

"She is dead!"

The emerald which adorned the neck of the fair lady was an emerald in a wreath of white roses of the Nile.

Since that visit at the house of the mummy-trader a marked change had taken place in the character of the young Englishman.

The day appointed for the departure had passed long ago, and yet the twelve-oared dahabieh was anchored at Luxor. In the cabin of the bark sat my lady for days and wept, while her husband wandered like a restless shadow through the deep valleys of the Theban necropolis. The limit of his daily walks was the dwelling of the mummy-trader, where he spent many hours, until the shades of evening crept over the Lybian mountains.

Lady Esther saw herself more neglected every day. To her reproaches and tears her once attentive husband only answered by silence.

It seemed as if a curse lay upon them.

At last she resolved to communicate her grief to her father. He had accompanied the young couple as far as Cairo, and was waiting there for their return from a trip up the Nile.

But a despatch from Cairo informed the unhappy Lady Esther that Lord M—— was dangerously ill.

This augmented her grief, yet she hoped that it would cause her husband to leave this gloomy place and hasten his departure.

Lady Esther, after receiving this sad message, went in search of her husband. She knew well that the strange things in Yani's museum had drawn the eccentric young man into its secret shadows, and that the desire to possess the beautiful mummy had become a passion.

The guide alone accompanied her. As the dwelling of the Greek was unguarded and open, they passed through to the chapel.

Here they found Yani, Nimr, and the Englishman, sitting at the shrine of a mummy, which bore so much resemblance to the woman that years ago had charmed Lady Esther's father.

The lady called her husband, but the latter threw such a sinister look at her that she stepped back terrified. She shuddered.

A foreboding of coming misfortune overcame her—a presentiment that this misfortune was the expiation of some dark deed committed by her father.

She did not venture to speak again to her husband, but left the chapel in mute resignation. The guide murmured, as he looked on the three silent men—

"May Allah preserve us from Satan!"

From this hour the news spread from Medinet Abu to Karnak that the young bey from England was bewitched by an evil spirit in the shape of a beautiful mummy, and that he was "melbus."

The fatal destiny was fulfilled. In the same way that Lord M—— once committed a robbery on the mummy-trader did his son-in-law contemplate treachery. True, he only wished

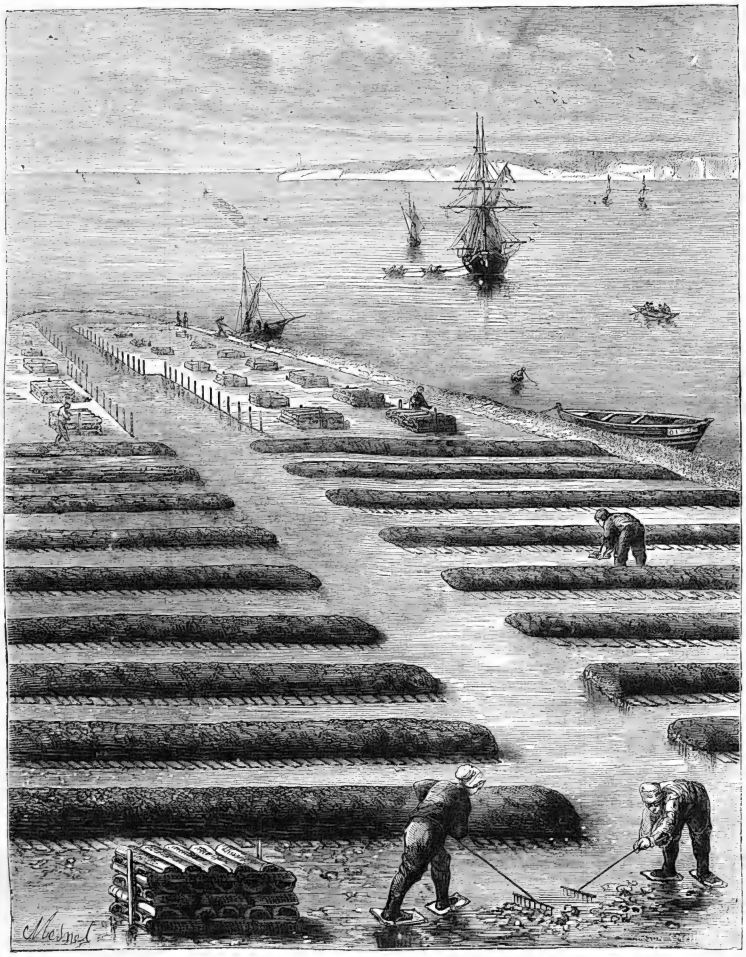
OYSTER PARK AT ARCACHON.

LOST in the rarely violated solitude of the *landes*, an extent of sandy plains which lie to the south of Bordeaux, the Bay of Arcachon was, in former days, only visited by gulls and wild-ducks. The scattered inhabitants who settled on its shores were rude fishermen, almost cut off from communication with the outer world.

The tide, with its regular ebb and flow, covers an immense space; when high, the green hue of the water can scarcely be distinguished from that of its marshy shores; when low, the winding channels, with their innumerable ramifications, have been compared to the suckers of a gigantic medusa. The whole scene depicts to the geologist an image of primitive chaos—marshy lagoons, still uninhabited by man, out of which rise islands of mud, which the imagination may realize as the mighty reptiles of the early days. Here, of late years a new trade has sprung up. The bay has always been famous for oysters, but reckless gathering had well-nigh destroyed the valuable shell-fish. However, when an enterprising mason of the odd name of Beef started the idea of cultivating oysters, and, after living through some years of ridicule, grew up before his mockers as a man of means and independent income, Arcachon, too, took up oyster-planting, and choice varieties from England and Spain, and even from America were planted in parts known as *lahillons.*

The plan adopted is peculiar, and our illustration shows its main features at low water. The grave-like mounds are earth heaped up as protection to the trenches in which the oysters are planted, securing them against heat and cold, as well as against the force of the rising or falling tide.

To save the spawn, the best contrivance has been found to be tile-pipe, piled as shown in the foreground. On these it fastens, and the young oysters grow. When necessary to separate them, it is done without injury. At the end of the first year they are laid in rows; at the end of the second and third, they can be detached from the tile and planted. The immense number and rapid growth give employment to great numbers of the people, for they are cultivated like a garden. Some are weeding, and removing mussels, seaweed that be detrimental, dead oysters, shells, &c.; others, like the man on the right, laying down the tiles in rows; others tending the piles preparatory to removal; others, like the man and woman in front, gathering in those fit for market. As it is a mud-bank, they move about with a flat board under the foot. Besides those thus engaged, a number are on watch in small sailing-boats, to prevent the poachers from invading the scene of so much valuable labour.

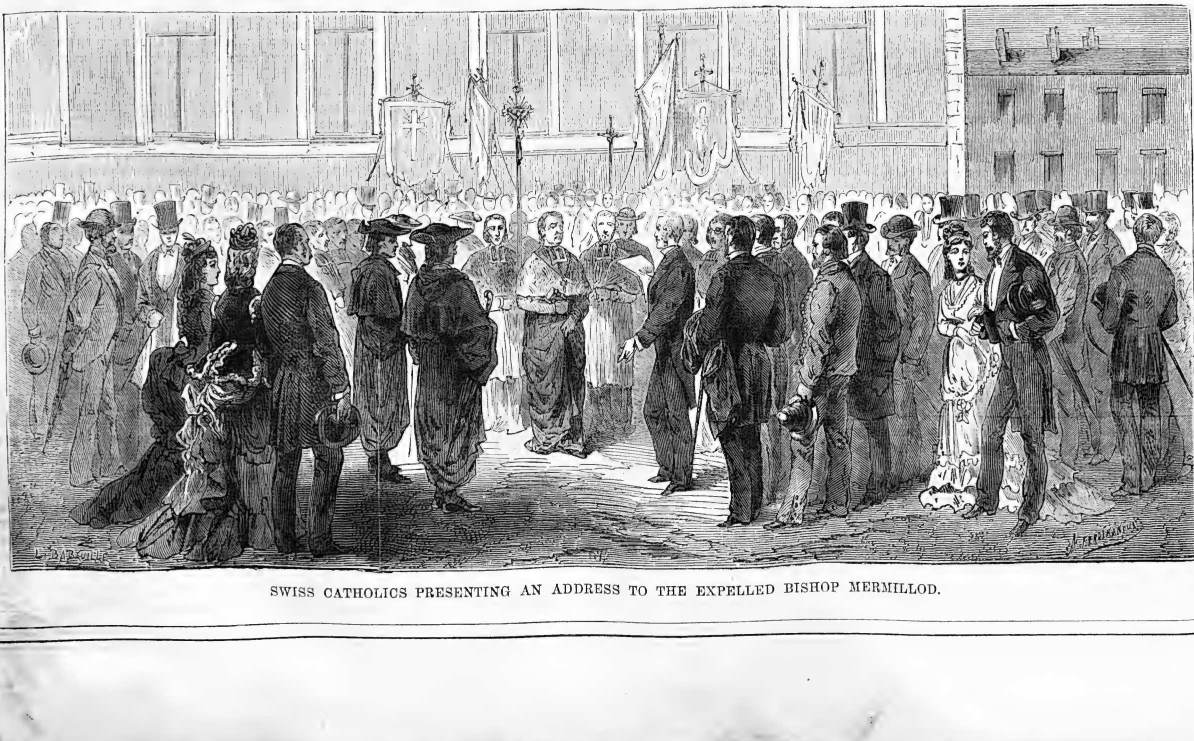


THE OYSTER PARK AT ARCACHON, NEAR BORDEAUX.

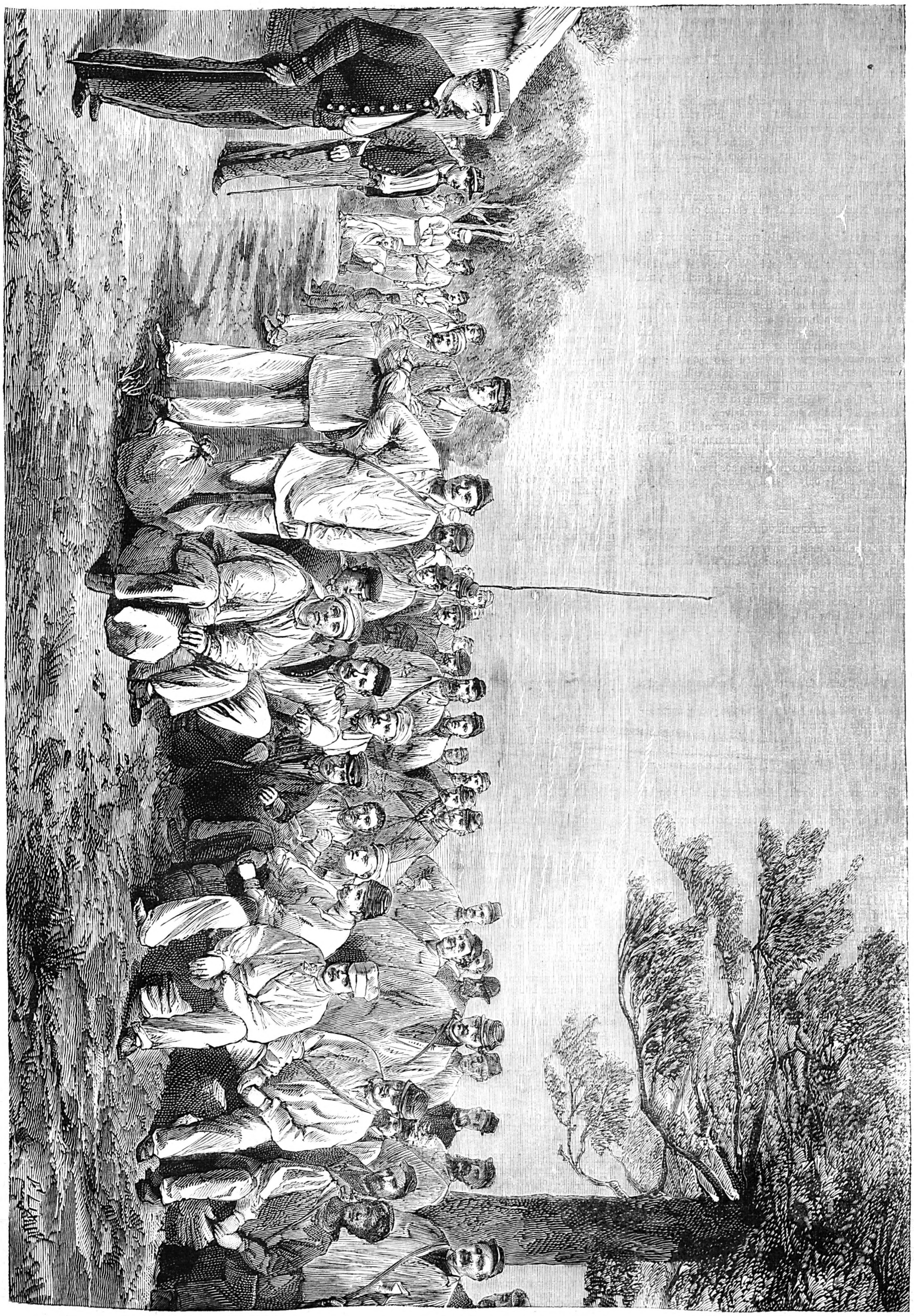
WHEN the Germans dictated to France their hard and exacting conditions of peace, the French—and especially the Parisians—vowed in whispers that they should never rest till they had their revenge. "Republican simplicity" was to be the order of the day, and one would have thought — from their words—that frivolity was to be entirely abjured. The constancy of the Parisians may be estimated by the fact that the prevailing fashion in the *salons* of the French capital is for ladies to array themselves in eighty-guinea dresses, which are worn for one evening and put away the next day. The more costly the dress the more it is noticed, and the less possible is it to wear the dress a second time. It is said that some young and pretty women have determined to make a stand against this luxury, and will not wear dresses costing more than £16 or £18, which may be worn on several occasions, but the present idea is that the young army of economy will be beaten by the *vieille garde* of coquettes who seek to replace the lost attractions of beauty by the richness of dress.

AN ingenious Yankee has proposed a plan by which he offers to warm Boston safely and cheaply. He will erect enormous furnaces in some remote locality, and convey heat by means of pipes to all houses whose owners will pay him his terms. Thus heat, as well as water and gas, will be "laid on" in well-regulated Boston houses, and the private stove and the domestic furnace will be as obsolete as the old-fashioned pump and the candles and lamps of antiquity. Why should he limit himself to supplying hot air only does not appear. Why should he not offer to supply artificially iced air in summer-time? What is there to hinder him from establishing a vast tobacco-pipe, wherein the best of Virginia tobacco shall for ever burn, and its pleasing fumes be conducted by supplementary lead-pipes into every bachelor's private apartments? There is really no limit to the good things which might thus be "laid on" in Bostonian houses, and the day may yet come when the Boston citizen shall have hot and cold air, beer, coffee, and tobacco-smoke supplied to every room in his house, by means of pipes and faucets.

Two French ladies were looking for the little daughter of one of them in a group of baby carriages. "Do you see him?" asked the friend of the mother. "Him? I am looking for her nurse." "Her nurse?" "Yes, all children look alike. I know the nurse, and I can find the child best in that way." "As for myself, I think all *bonnes* look alike." "How do you find yours, then?" "Oh, I know the soldier who is her beau."



SWISS CATHOLICS PRESENTING AN ADDRESS TO THE EXPELLED BISHOP MERMILLOD.



ARRIVAL OF THE EXILED FRENCH COMMUNISTS AT THE SETTLEMENT OF NEW CALEDONIA.

to carry off a mummy, but this dead body was to the unfortunate father a compensation for his lost, but never-forgotten daughter.

When the Englishman saw that money could not buy this mummy from the old man he had recourse to the agents of Mohammed Ali, who came to claim the sarcophagus as "State's property," and from them he bought the mummy for an enormous sum.

How to carry it off from his two rivals, Yani and Nimr, was the next difficulty, for they knew nothing of this infamous plot.

Money flowed freely everywhere, and preparations for the departure were made in secret. The mummy-trader and his inseparable companion were enticed to go to Luxor, and during this favourable hour the Englishman entered the Hypogees with his men. Yani had, without suspicion, followed the call to Luxor, but Nimr, pressed by some dark misgiving, returned when he was about half way.

Already were the men occupied with the removal of the mummy, when Nimr appeared at the entrance of the catacombs.

He sprung furiously at the Englishman, and more succesful this time than in the struggle with Lord M——, he thrust his dagger up to the hilt in his breast! With a wild laugh he tore from the hand of the terrified servant the torchlight, and flung it into the vaults, and then fell down senseless.

The mountains trembled as if they would burst: a loud report was heard, then a horrible scream, and all was silent. The eager flames rushed like a waving sea into all the corridors and chambers, filled with hundreds of mummies,

The subterranean conflagration lasted two months; and daily the inhabitants of the neighbouring Fellah villages were frightened by new explosions. No one dared approach this gigantic glowing fire, of which, according to Arab superstition, the evil "Dehemin" had possessed themselves.

Since that unhappy catastrophe the Graves of the Queens have been accursed in the eyes of the natives, and it is with reluctance that they enter it. Besides, there is but little more to be seen there for the casual tourist; the place is empty, black, desolate, and scorched; only bats fly around, serpents hiss, and jackals skulk there.

CHAPTER. VI.

A few weeks after this gloomy occurrence, a stately dahabieh descended the Nile; on its stern was waving the flag of England, but draped in mourning.

Never has the sky of Egypt been brighter, and the scenery of the wonderful stream more peaceful!

On a mat at the bow of the vessel sits the raïs, lost in deep meditation. It is Mansur, the same who years ago had carried Lord M—— down the Nile.

But to day he carries the noble Englishman's only child, his daughter—but as a corpse.

She died from a brain fever, of which she was attacked a few days after her husband's death.

In the black-draped cabin lay stretched the young corpse—pale, stiff, and mute for ever!

A beautiful coffin of some mummy contains the mortal remains which the English Consul had embalmed, that they might be safely delivered to the unconscious father at Cairo.

Beside the corpse sits Yani. A thought rests upon his furrowed brow, and a spark glows in his eyes. He brings this time to his former patron and customer, to the proud Lord M——, as beautiful a mummy as any amateur of antiquities could wish to possess.

"Is not the old mummy-trader still in debt to Lord M——? Did the latter not pay him, ten years ago, the weight of a mummy in gold, and afterwards left it with Yani?"

These were Yani's thoughts, which caused a dark smile to creep over his faded lips.

Now and then he mounts upon the deck of the cabin, and looks into the distance to see whether he could not yet discern from among the palm-trees the lilies of the minarets of the great city of Ibrahim Pasha; then he descends again into the cabin to keep company with the dead.

One evening he looked again, and he beheld the white, shining cresent from the Mokattam, which the called Mohammed Ali's mosque. And the old man shook his fragile limbs, and his eyes lightened.

From the gate of Elfi a group moves slowly over the Esbekieh towards the Neg-hôtel.

In front, his head bent low, walks Raïs Mansur; after him follow four sailors, carrying a coloured bier, with the many coloured coffin of a mummy on it. Last totters a little-silver-bearded old man with a tamarind cane in his hand.

They inqure for Lord M——. His Excellency, who is better during the last few days, reclines on the verandah.

Mansur steps before the invalid with downcast eyes, and a dark brow. The Englishman rises hastily, asking—

"What brings you from Thebes?"

Mansur was silent.

Lord M—— is pale and trembling.

"Some calamity!" he cried, fearing the worst. "Speak!"

The doors of the verandah were opened, through which the coffin was brought, followed by the old man.

"What is this?" asked Lord M——.

"It is your mummy!" replied the old man, with a violent movement, uncovering the coffin.

"Esther, my child!" cried the Englishman, in the most heartrending tone.

But a hoarse laugh is the answer to the father's despair.

"Do you know this jewel?" asked the old man, holding up the emerald.

"Yani!" cried the other, with consternation.

"Yes, Yani," cried the mummy-trader; "eye for eye, tooth for tooth, child for child. Lord M——, our account is balanced." With these words the Greek disappeared through the open door; while Lord M—— sank down beside the body of his daughter.

From that hour the mummy-trader was never seen again. Lord M—— died a few months afterwards at Malta, whither he had taken the body of his daughter.

Temsah appeared again at Thebes, more ragged and poorer than ever. Tired of digging treasures, he stole a donkey, and became a donkey-driver, such as we found him.

But the Fellahs of Thebes remember to this day the bewitched mummy, the "melbus," the "Inklizis," and old Yani, and tell many curious things, with which they try to excuse their superstitious fear of the Hypogees of the Queens,

AT THE THEATRES.

DRURY-LANE.

The morning performance on Saturday afternoon for the benefit of Mr. and Mrs. Liston, late of the Olympic, brought toghther an audience that filled every nook of Drury-lane. Generally the entertainment consisted of selections from the pieces now performed at various theatres. The two exceptions were "Heads of the People," a little "Protean farce," and the second act of Mr. Wills's "Medea." This act, it may be remembered, comprises the scene between Jason and Medea, which is derived from the second episode of the Greek tragedy, and ends with the terrific incantation, by which the veil is endowed with its harmful qualities.

ADELPHI.

Jack Sheppard is certainly a very strangely-treated person. Although he used somewhat crooked means to earn a name, still, a name he did earn, and one that is more familiar to hundreds of persons than the name of many a worthier man. But, according to the decision of the Lord Chamberlain, this very name—the only article to which poor Jack had a rightful claim, and which he won, be it remembered, at the cost of his life—is just the one article he must not retain. His face may be freely shown upon the stage, though this, perhaps, might not have been the case if he had been a "Right Honourable;" he may talk a moderate quantity of slang, he may present in glowing colours all the delights that pertain to the ancient profession of thief, but he must not be called "Jack Sheppard." In "Old London," still played at the Queen's with continued success, he figures as Dick Wastrell. In the "Stone Jug"—that is to say the old Adelphi piece revived on Saturday at the New Adelphi Theatre—he reappears as Bob Chance. In all material respects, however, the drama which Mr. Buckstone founded on Mr. Ainsworth's novel remains, in spite of its new name, the "Stone Jug," precisely the same piece which obtained so much notoriety when originally brought out in 1839, and is not to be confounded with "Old London" at the Queen's, which, immediately derived from "Les Chevaliers du Brouillard," contains much that did not emanate from Mr. Ainsworth. The Bob Chance of Miss Hudspeth is the Jack Sheppard of Mrs. Keeley. If the rich colouring of the retired actress is not attained, the tradition is preserved, and the little vagabond 'prentice Bob, who is as distinct as possible from the roguish little beau Dick created by Miss Hodson, is represented with singular consistency and spirit. The constant endeavour of Mr. Augustus Glover to get the most out of every part he undertakes, at any cost of exertion, revives the Blueskin (now Purple-face) of the olden time, though the "make-up" of his face is a mistake. The unthankful though responsible part of Jonathan Wild (now Sampson Savage), the most disagreeable of villains, was well played by Mr. Fernandez, and, altogether, the execution of the entire work is highly creditable to the Adelphi company and to Mr. E. Stirling, under whose direction it is produced.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL GOSSIP.

A new drama by Mr. H. J. Byron is in preparation at the Globe Theatre.

Offenbach assumes the direction of the Gaîté Theatre, Paris, on June 1st.

Mdlle. Valleria, promised at Her Majesty's, is said to be a highly-promising soprano.

Mr. Mapleson's new tenor, Signor Amburro, has appeared at Edinburgh with great success.

At the last meeting of the Committee of the Royal Academy of Music, it was decided *not* to move the institution to South Kensington.

Mr. R. Reece's new extravaganza on the theme of "King John, or Magna Charta," will be the next burlesque at the Strand.

A new drama, by Mr. W. G. Wills, on the subject of "Eugene Aram," will succeed at the Lyceum Theatre the "Charles I." of the same author.

M. Belot's piece, the "Femme de Feu," was brought out last Saturday night at the Theatre Royal du Parc at Brussels, and met with as little success as it did in Paris.

For the benefit of Mr. S. Hayes, the courteous manager of the box-office at the Gaiety Theatre, Wallace's famous opera "Maritana" will be produced on Tuesday morning, April 1st.

Great preparations are being made for dramatic performances on a large scale at the Alexandra Palace, Muswell-hill, and when built and opened this will make the forty-seventh theatre in and about London, to say nothing of music-halls, concert-halls, and "entertainment" galleries. Seventeen of these theatres have been created since the sitting of the Dramatic Parliamentary Committee of 1866.

Madame Nisson-Rouzand has declined the Russian proposal that an indemnity should be paid to Herr Strakosch, and that she should abandon the idea of a second tour in America. She will visit the States in September next.

At the Philharmonic the new opéra-bouffe of "Fleur de Lys" will, on Saturday, April 5th, take the place of the long-lived "Genevieve de Brabant," which by that time will have nearly reached its four hundred and fiftieth night.

At the Adelphi we shall shortly have a new drama, with remarkable effects, furnished by Mr. Leopold Lewis, the author of "The Bells," based upon Eugene Sue's remarkable story of "The Wandering Jew," and most probably retaining the same title.

Mr. Boucicault is engaged on a new play for America, which will take the shape next April of a five-act drama at Booth's Theatre. We are told that the talented dramatist intends to make this a more deserving and enduring specimen of his skill than anything he has accomplished of late years.

We understand that the entries in the contest in July next in connection with the National Music Meetings already include upwards of two thousand vocal and instrumental executants, while some ninety candidates have signified their intention of trying to obtain certificates of merit from the judges.

Amongst those who visited the Court Theatre to see the burlesque of the "Happy Land" was, it is said, Mr. Ayrton, who, it will be remembered, was one of the Ministers taken off. It will be satisfactory to the authors of this production to know that this eminent critic and acknowledged judge of art pronounced the whole piece dull and stupid.

It having been stated that the grave and monument of Edmund Kean are in a dilapidated state, the Rev. C. T. Proctor, vicar of Richmond, states that the grave is in good order, and the tablet (which is on the outside wall of the church, near the south-west door, and almost immediately over the grave) is in excellent condition, having been thoroughly cleansed and done up within a recent period.

The Misses Agnes and Violet Molyneux, the infant pianistes, had the honour of playing a selection of music before her Majesty the Queen, the Princess Beatrice, and the ladies of the Royal Household, at Windsor Castle on Saturday last. Her Majesty expressed herself highly pleased with their playing, and took occasion to compliment them upon the wonderful talent they had displayed.

The performances at the Charing Cross Theatre will be entirely changed about Easter. We are informed that the prospective arrangements at this establishment combine a new comedy, by Mr. C. M. Rae, written for Mrs. Stirling, entitled "Follow the Leader;" a new comedy by Mr. James Mortimer, called "A Tender Chord:" the old comedy by Wycherley—as altered by Garrick—of "The Country Girl;' and a modern comedy, by Mr. H. J. Byron, entitled "Time's Triumph."

It has been finally resolved, at a meeting in the Senate House of Cambridge University, that the monument to Professor Sedgwick shall be a new Geological Museum.

A fatal hunting accident occurred on Friday in Belton-park, near Grantham. Mr. Clarke Cole, a farmer of Fulbeck, was riding through the park to the meet of the Duke of Rutland's hounds, when, in consequence of the blinding sleet, which was falling heavily, the horse and rider were prevented from observing a tree which stood in their path. On nearing it, however, it is supposed that the animal suddenly swerved on one side and passed in safety, but the head of the rider came in violent contact with the tree, and he was thrown to the ground. No person actually witnessed the accident, but a gentleman riding near, seeing Mr. Cole upon the ground, went to his assistance, and found that he was dead.

The Claimant stoppping the way.—At the Guildhall, Kidderminster, on Friday week, Mr. R. Lloyd, landlord of the Lion Hotel in that town, was summoned for having, on the 13th inst., allowed billiard-playing on his premises at a time they were not allowed to be open for the sale of liquors, &c. The Claimant was in Kidderminster on the above day, and put up at the Lion Hotel. At twenty minutes to twelve at night, Mr. Haigh, chief of police, said he saw several persons in the Lion yard, and found they were coming from the billiard-room. He spoke to the defendant, who said that the gentleman present had been watching "Tichborne" playing at billiards, and there was no drink about. He knew several of them, and these were not lodgers. One of the gentlemen he referred to, Mr. Corbel, said they should have come out before, but could not get out because "Tichborne" stood in the doorway. (Laughter.) The Clerk: Did he mean the doorway was filled up? Witness: Yes. Defendant said only "Tichborne" and his agent, Bullock, were playing at billiards, and the other gentlemen went out of curiosity to see him play. Eight or ten of them were staying at the house The Bench, after consulting some time, said they would give the defendant the benefit of the doubt, and dismissed the case.

A nice point.—Several omnibus conductors were summoned at the Guildhall Police-court on Saturday, for stopping in front of the General Post-office to set down and take up passengers. The proceedings were taken at the instance of the Postmaster-General, under an Act passed in 1837, and directed against the standing or plying for hireof any hackney carriage, either in St. Martin's-le-Grand, or in Sackville-street, Dublin. It was contended that an omnibus was not a hackney carriage within the meaning of the Act. Alderman Owdee decided to inflict a nominal penalty. Notice of appeal was given.

Last Monday Dr. Lankester held an inquest at St. John's of Jerusalem Tavern, on the body of John Crown, aged 72. Deceased, who gained his livelihood by attending sales, resided at 17, St. John's Lane. He had been in bad health for some time, and on the evening of Thursday last was spoken to by his landlord, Mr. George Capell, he being then in bed and in worse health than usual. As he was not seen on Friday morning, a policeman was sent for, and on entering his room he was found dead in bed. The evidence of Dr. Knight, of St. John's-street, showed that death had resulted from syncope, caused by fatty degeneration of the heart, and a verdict in accordance was returned.

IN COURT.

THE BANK FORGERIES.

On Thursday week the great forgery case again came before the Lord Mayor, on remand, at the Mansion House, when Edwin Noyes, the American, who is charged with being concerned in the extensive frauds on the Bank of England, was placed at the bar for further examination. Mr. Poland was, as before, counsel for the prosecution, and Dr. Kenealy, Q.C., was counsel for the prisoner.

Mr. Poland, addressing the Bench, said he proposed to give evidence of the changing of notes to the amount of £23,000 into gold, and the re-changing that gold into notes by M'Donald. One of the notes for £100 so obtained was found in the possession of the prisoner.

Mr. Edward Brent, a clerk in the Issue Department of the Bank of England, said he knew the prisoner by the name of Edwin Noyes. On the 21st of January, he came to the Bank, and produced two notes for £500 each. They were the same now produced. The prisoner wanted gold for the notes. They were endorsed "Edwin Noyes, 28, George-street, W." The Directory was referred to, and witness asked the prisoner if the name and address on the notes were his, and he said they were, and that he was living at an hotel. Witness inquired of the prisoner whether the gold was wanted for exportation, and he said it was not—it was required for home use. The gold was then weighed out and placed in a bag that was supplied to the prisoner by one of the Bank of England porters, and the prisoner put the gold into a black leather bag, and took it away with him. Witness made a note of the transaction on the back of one of the notes. This was the first time witness remembered seeing the prisoner. He saw the prisoner again on the 24th of January, and he then presented seven Bank of England notes amounting altogether to £1,500, and asked that they might be changed into gold. (The witness identified the notes now produced as being the same.) There were two £500 notes and five £100 notes, which made up the £1,500. The notes were endorsed "Edwin Noyes, 28, George-street, Manchester-square (Durrant's Hotel)." Witness again asked the prisoner if the gold was wanted for home use or for exportation, and he replied that it was for home use. He saw the prisoner again on the 27th of January, on which occasion he presented ten Bank of England notes amounting to £585, and asked for gold, which witness gave him. It was the custom of the Bank of England when gold to the amount of £1,000 was wanted in exchange for notes, to inquire whether the money was wanted for home use or for exportation. A £100 note that was among these notes was endorsed "Edwin Noyes, 28, George-street, Manchester-square (Durrant's Hotel)." The prisoner always brought a black bag with him when he came for the gold. He next saw the prisoner on the 28th of January, when he brought twenty-two Bank of England notes to be exchanged for gold. Seventeen of these notes were for £100 each. One of these notes, like the former, was endorsed, like the others, "E. Noyes, 28, George-street, Manchester-square (Durrant's Hotel)." The amount of these notes was £1,950. He had no doubt that upon this occasion the prisoner told him that the notes were wanted for home use. On the 7th February the prisoner came again, and presented eleven notes of the value of £3,450, and asked for gold for them. The gold was given to him, and he again said that it was for home use, and one of the notes was endorsed the same as in the former transaction. On the 11th of February, the prisoner brought nineteen more notes, amounting in value to £2,800, and asked for gold. On this occasion he said that the gold was required for Paris. The prisoner wrote the same endorsement as on the previous occasions upon one of the notes. Witness made an entry in the bank-book to the effect that the gold was required for Paris.

Mr. Dean and Mr. Ritchie, clerks in the same department, also deposed that on several occasions the prisoner brought notes to the Bank, for which he required gold in exchange.

Mr. Hughes, a clerk in the gold-weighing department of the Bank of England, proved that, on the 28th January, a man, whom he recognised by his photograph as George M'Donald, brought £6,320 worth of gold in sovereigns, and asked for bank-notes for them. He said at first that there were only £6,300, but it turned out that there were £6,320. On the 13th of February the same man brought 650 sovereigns, and on the 19th of February 9,000 sovereigns, and on the 25th of the same month 1,000 sovereigns, for which he obtained notes in exchange. He said the gold came from Lisbon. The man spelt his name "Macdonnell."

Dr. Kenealy objected, on the part of the prisoners, to time being wasted in giving evidence of this description.

Mr. Poland said he did not consider that any time was wasted. It was most material evidence, because it went to show that the witness had ample opportunity to identify the man M'Donald.

Dr. Kenealy said he would admit the whole of the facts that had been proved.

Evidence, principally upon personal character, was then adduced to show that the bank-notes were handed to M'Donald in exchange for the gold.

Mr. Adams, the principal in the Issue Department, deposed that upon M'Donald telling him that the sovereigns came from Lisbon, he remarked that it was unusual to have such full weight sovereigns from Lisbon, and that they had probably come from the house of Knowles, Foster, and Co. M'Donald replied that they did not come from that house, but he gave no further information as to the source from which the sovereigns had been obtained.

In cross-examination, the witness said that he could not charge his memory to say positively whether the prisoner said he had got the notes from a bank or from a banker. He did not recollect whether the prisoner told him that he was acting for his master, who was a Mr. Horton. He believed the prisoner said he had brought the gold from Lisbon, but he could not state positively that he did so.

Re-examined: He had not the slightest recollection of the name of Horton being mentioned by the prisoner.

Mr. H. West, a clerk in the employment of J. S. Morgan & Co., of Old Broad-street, merchants, identified the photograph, as he said, to the best of his belief, as that of George M'Donald, and he proved that on the 1st of February this man wished to open an account with the house, and witness told him that a letter of recommendation and introduction was necessary. He then produced a letter of credit from their Paris agents, and said he had some bank-notes with which he wished to have opened an account. Eventually, the sum of £1,200 in bank-notes was received from M'Donald as a deposit account, and also £80 in gold. Witness refused to open a current account until he had a letter of recommendation. The deposit was made in the name of George M'Donald. The money was subsequently returned, and M'Donald then said that in a few days he was about to leave for America. This was on the 28th of February. In answer to questions put by the Lord Mayor, the witness said that M'Donald did not give any address.

Mr. Poland said the Lord Mayor would remember that on Wednesday, the 5th of March, when Ellen Vernon and George Bidwell were together at Dover, Bidwell stopped at the bank there, and transacted some business. It now turned out that Bidwell, giving the name of Smart, paid in £300, and obtained a draft in favour of the prisoner, who was then in custody. The draft, for the purposes of his defence, was sent to the prisoner's solicitor, and was stopped when presented.

Dr. Kenealy said that sum was the £300 which the prisoner deposited with Horton when he entered his service as a clerk, and he demanded the return of the money.

Mr. Poland said the agreement between Horton and the prisoner was a mere sham.

At this stage the case was again adjourned. The Duke of Cambridge was present during part of the day.

THE ALLEGED ROBBERY BY AN ACTOR.

After repeated adjournments, and some little doubt as to when the trial of Herbert Crellin, the actor, charged with robbery to a large amount, would take place, it was at length fixed for Friday, the 21st inst.

The prisoner pleaded "Not guilty."

Mr. Serjeant Parry opened the case for the prosecution at some length.

William Charles Brown, the prosecutor, deposed: At the time of my marriage there was a settlement upon my wife of £4,000. That settlement was made by her father, and he gave her £200 a-year to her separate use. On my marriage I had £4,000 in the bank, and an income amounting to about £700 a-year. I lived comfortably and happily with my wife down to February of the present year. In the second week in February something occurred which aroused my suspicion. I never gave prisoner permission to come to my house, nor had I seen him there. He was an entire stranger. I remember my wife coming home late one night, in consequence of which some words passed. On the following day my wife left my house. When I found she had gone, I went the next day to Brighton, to her father's. I got there about half-past ten o'clock, but found she had not been there. She came about half-past three o'clock. I went from Brighton about six o'clock, and my wife accompanied me to the train. On the following day I met my father and father-in-law at my house. My wife was not present. That was on Monday, the 17th. I did not see my wife on that day. The arrangement was made with my wife's father that she should go with him to Brighton. She left the house, and did not return. I employed some one to trace her out. On the 23rd of February, I, in company with my father and Cheney, went to Southampton-street, Strand. After I had been there some time, I saw prisoner and my wife and his brother come out of Bedford-chambers. The prisoner's brother called out, "Herbert, run!" He did run, and I ran after him. He was captured and taken to Bow-street, where he was charged with stealing £500 worth of jewellery. I saw some jewellery, which was given up by him, amongst which was a gold snake-ring. I saw the ring upon the prisoner's finger, and said, "That is my ring." He said, "No, it was not, it was his own property, having been given to him." The four rings produced, which were found upon the prisoner at Bow-street, were my property. I was present when two £10 notes and two sovereigns were given up. The prisoner was afterwards taken to Hampstead.

Cross-examined by Mr. Montagu Williams: Since the prisoner has been in custody I have instituted a divorce suit, in which he has been made co-respondent. The snake-ring I did not often wear. There was no inscription upon it at the time I had it. The other was all ladies' jewellery. I had bought none of it. The greater portion of it belonged to my wife's mother, or had been presented to her at the time of her wedding.

William Gander, head-waiter at Jack Straw's Castle, said that on the 18th February, between nine and ten in the evening, the prisoner and Mrs. Brown came and occupied a room as man and wife. They resided there until the Sunday, when the prisoner was taken into custody.

William Charles Brown, the father of the prosecutor, said: I live at Bond-street and Cork-street. I know the jewellery produced. I have seen it in the possession of my daughter-in-law, and I know it belonged to my son. I gave the prisoner in charge.

Mrs. Marian Durrant deposed: I am landlady of 7, Broad-street, Brighton. I have seen the prisoner. He came to lodge at my house on the 26th of October. I have seen Mrs. Brown. I have seen her at my house with the prisoner. They were not living together as man and wife. Mrs. Brown only visited him. The witness proceeded to say, in answer to Mr. Serjeant Parry, that she knew that the prisoner and Mrs. Brown had committed adultery.

Charles King, manager to Mr. Attenborough, pawnbroker, of 78, Strand, deposed that the prisoner pledged the ring produced for £3 in the name of Stanley. On the same day he pledged a ring for £30, which witness produced. He said that the ring belonged to his wife's mother, and that it had been purchased at one of Mr. Attenborough's shops.

This was the case for the prosecution.

Mr. Montagu Williams said he had decided not to call any witnesses. He admitted that there had been adultery; but he submitted that this was not the court where the matter should be considered, as he held that there was no evidence to prove an intention to steal, or that the prisoner even knew that the property he pawned was the property of the woman's husband.

The learned judge, in summing up, said, if the jury thought that the woman believed the property to be her own, and led the prisoner to believe so as well, then they would have to acquit him; but if, on the other hand, they thought he was dealing with property which he knew to belong to the husband, then they would have to find him guilty.

The jury, after deliberating for about three-quarters of an hour, returned into court, and the foreman stated that they had a doubt in their minds as to the guilty knowledge of the prisoner, and decided to give him the benefit of the doubt.

The prisoner uttered an exclamation of relief on hearing the verdict, and a person, said to be his brother, was carried out in hysterics.

The learned Judge, addressing the defendant, said he hoped the position in which he had placed himself by his conduct would be a warning to him for the rest of his life. He had committed one of the greatest wrongs which it was possible for one man to commit against another. He was then discharged.

FORGERY BY A CLERGYMAN.

At the York Assizes on Saturday last, the Rev. Vyvyan Henry Moyle pleaded guilty to several indictments for forging certain scrip certificates of the firm of Jackson, Gill & Co. Mr. Digby Seymour, who appeared for the prisoner, in making an appeal to the court for a merciful sentence, described the various good works in which Mr. Moyle had been engaged, and said that unhappily one result of his efforts was not only an overtaxed brain, but a great tax on his financial resources. Nearly all he earned was most ungrudgingly given to the works of charity and good in which he was engaged. In an evil hour, and when his mind was probably so occupied with other matters that he could scarcely guide the moral sense right, he fell into temptation, and had unfortunately his eye attracted by the announcement of a society in London known as the Mutual Society, the dealings of the prisoner with which the learned counsel described at some length. He said that Mr. Moyle flattered himself that he might be able to increase his own means, and the means of doing good to others. He took a large number of shares with this object in view, and borrowed the large sum of about £11,000, expecting to be able to pay this sum back again. In this he had been disappointed, and, becoming involved, he had vainly sought to extricate himself by the commission of the offences with which he was charged. Several witnesses to character were called at the close of the learned counsel's speech, and sentence was deferred.

On Monday, Lord Chief Justice Bovill, addressing the prisoner, told him that the crime for which he was about to suffer had always been considered of the greatest guilt, it being one against which no police regulations can afford protection. His lordship glanced at the fact that, within the recollection of many who were hearers of the sentence he was about to pass, the penalty imposed would have been death, and he concluded an impressive address by saying: "It is impossible for me to regard the circumstances otherwise than as showing the utmost deliberation and most ingenious method of concealment; and after carefully considering the case, the conclusion I have come to is that no less a sentence can be pronounced than that of seven years' penal servitude." The prisoner, who was apparently overcome by emotion, was then removed from the dock.

THE ELTHAM MURDER.

Before the Aldershot Bench, on Thursday week, George Ridout Theodore Bingham, recruit of the depôt 52nd Light Infantry, was charged on remand (on his own confession) with being the murderer of Maria Jane Clousen, in Kidbrook-lane, on the 26th of April, 1871.

Mr. Superintendent George Troke, of the Hants constabulary, to whom the prisoner had surrendered himself, asked for a remand for a week, on the ground that he had received several communications from persons who alleged that they might identify the prisoner. George Walker had written to the effect that he had seen the prisoner's photograph, and that it resembled the person whom he had seen in Kidbrook-lane on the morning of the day on which the murder was committed.

The chairman asked the prisoner whether he still persisted in his statement.

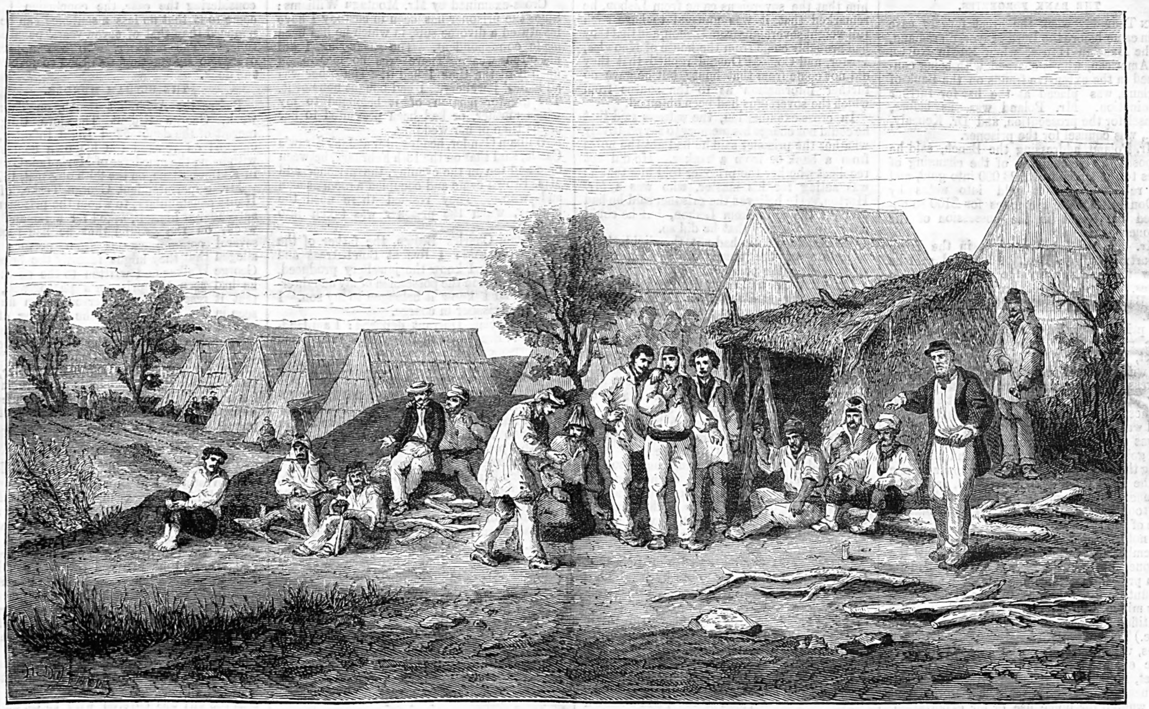
The prisoner replied in the affirmative, and on being informed that he was again remanded for a week, elected to be sent to Winchester in preference to remaining in the cells of the police-station at Aldershot.

CRUELTY TO CHILDREN.

A shocking case of ill-treatment of children was investigated at Bow-street last Saturday. Two children of a man named William Messenger—a boy aged ten, and a girl aged nine—were found in a house in Windsor-court, Strand, clothed in filthy rags, and covered with sores. Dr. Mills, who was called in to see the children, said he believed the boy could not have lived much longer in his then condition, and it was evident that he had had no medical attendance and little food. His ankles were tied together, so that he could not move from the bed. His stepmother, who was in the room, said that she had tied him in that way to prevent his touching the sores. His hands were not tied. There were marks about the back as of beating. Another witness said that the girl was covered with sores, and appeared greatly frightened of her stepmother. The latter asked her if she had had sufficient food, and the girl answered, "Yes, dear mother." When subsequently some coffee and food were taken to the children, the boy ate it ravenously, but the girl seemed to fear taking any because of her mother. Both Messenger and his wife were then remanded. When they were removed from the dock they were followed by hisses from the court, which was crowded with women of the neighbourhood.

At the Bow-street police-court, on Monday, William and Emma Messenger were again brought up on remand. The vicinity of the court was crowded with persons, mostly women, anxious to see the prisoners, but the police, expecting a scene, had conveyed them into the cells at the back of the court early this morning. The little boy is too ill as yet to leave the Strand Workhouse, but the girl was in an ante-room of the court, and presented a most deplorable appearance. She is an undergrown child, is very pale, has a badly-formed head, and a cowed look. When asked as to a bad bruise across the bridge of the nose, she said her mother had done it. Her arms were covered with suppurating bruises, several as large as a penny-piece. She looks clean now, and is stated to have much improved in appearance under the care of the matron of the workhouse.

Mr. W. O. Reader, vestry clerk of St. Mary-le-Strand, prosecuted for the Guardians of the Strand Union. At a quarter-past four the prisoners were placed at the bar. The little girl Fanny was called, and detailed at great length the cruelty which she had suffered at the hands of her stepmother. She states that her mother on one occasion had pushed her hand into the fire, and upon another had bitten her fingers. Witness also had bruises on her shoulder, and had been wounded through her mother-in-law kicking her. Witness lived in the back room with her brother, but was not allowed to go in the front room, except when she was desired to go errands. Witness also had marks upon her throat from being pinched. Her legs were tied together night after night, because she said she would run away. Witness's brother's legs were tied together from Monday to Wednesday, and he was not even permitted to leave the bed. He had no clothes whatever on, and only half a blanket and some sacking to cover him. Witness helped him out of bed once. She saw the male prisoner last Sunday, but before then had not seen him for several months. He never came in to her to say "good night." He asked her how she got the place on her nose, and she was afraid to tell for fear of the cane. Her mother generally gave her enough to eat, and always gave her more when she asked for it, but she very seldom asked. The witness added that her mother used to bite her fingers, and she pointed out the scar. Mr. Flower said that the charge assumed a differerent aspect from what was originally supposed. It appeared to be more a case of cruel assault than of starvation. On account of the lateness of the hour the case was adjourned.



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